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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 10TH MARCH.

DACCA is justly proud of Nawab Abdul Gani. His acts of beneficence have been so conspicuous that they well deserve to be commemorated. Accordingly the Native community of Dacca lately held a public meeting to do honor to the Nawab. The following Resolutions were passed at this meeting:

"That in order to express our deepest gratitude to Nawab Abdul Guny C. S. I. for his manifold and innumerable acts of liberality and charity, his birthday, the 14th Sraban, be commemorated by annual national festivities and any other work of public utility as funds may allow.

That subscription be invited from the citizens of Dacca and from the public at large.

That the following gentlemen be requested to form a committee to raise funds and to conduct other transactions with powers to add to their number:

Babus Gangacharan Sirkar, Obhoychandra Das, Kristachandra Roy, Okhoykumar Sen, Mohinymohan Das, Ramlal Das, Raghunath Das, Radhicamohan Roy, Govindachandra Roy, Ramchandra Banerjea, Madanmohan Basak, Bhagwanchandra Roy, Govindchandra Das, Chandrakumar Bose, Nandokumar Banerjea, Iswarchandra Das, Durgadas Roy, Ramprosad Sen, Kaliprasanno Ghose, Kalinarain Roy, Prankumar Das, Purnachandra Banerjea, Kailashchandra Ghose, Kailashchandra Sen, Lalla Mirtojit Singh, Dr. P K Roy, Iswarchandra Sil, Moulvie Obedulla, Syad Mohamed Mirza Mahamed, Syad Mohamed Ali, Syad Mohamed Bakur, Aga Mohamed Karim, Abdul Hye, Mouvie Abedulla, Meer Golam Mustofa and Meer Muhamed Ali.

That Baba Obhoychandra Das be elected president of the Committee and Babus Srinath Roy, Govindchandra Das, Moulvie Obedulla and Syad Mahomed, Secretaries, and Babu Ramchandra Banerjea Treasurer.

That the Government be asked to make the 14th Sraban, the birth-day of the Nawab, a local holiday."

We hope an enduring monument will be erected in honor of the Nawab.

WE POINTED out in our comments on the exemptions from the Arms Act that it would be useless to exempt men of position without exempting at the same time their retainers. We observe that an amended list is published in last Saturday's *Gazette of India*, from which we take the following:

The following personages and their retainers are exempted:

(a) the ancient zemindars and polygars of the Madras Presidency;

(b) the Deccan and Southern Mahratta Sirdars;

(c) the Maharaja of Bulrampore, K. C. S. I., the Maharajah of Benares; the Raja of Gursahai; the Raja of Jagmanpore; the Rao of Gopalpura;

(d) the great Sirdars and Jagirdars of the Punjab;

(e) the zemindars of the scheduled districts in the Central Provinces;

(f) the great zemindars of Bengal;

subject to such orders as the respective Local Governments may issue regarding personages to be included in these categories, or the numbers of retainers in each case.

Spears of all kinds have been exempted in Bengal, so far as regards districts or parts of districts which the Local-Government may declare to come within this exemption.

THE LAST annual report of the Calcutta Trades' Association contains abundant evidence of the activity of that body. It is keenly alive to the interests of the community it represents, and no question was passed unnoticed by it, which affected them. We commend their example to Indian tradesmen.

WE HAVE received the following letter from Magura, dated the 5th instant:

I am sorry to inform you that on the night of the 20th ultimo, a most daring burglary was committed here upon the residence of Babu Prasannakumar Ghose, Munsif of this place; and that valuables consisting of an English watch, a gold chain and other golden ornaments valued at Rs. 1200, have been stolen away. The daring character of the burglary lies in the fact that it was committed in the Babu's house located as it is within 30 yards of the Sub-Divisional residence and in the front of the Jail and the Cutchery. Similar burglaries have been of frequent occurrence in the head-quarters of this Sub-Division for some time past. But the Police here have not been able to trace out any of the culprits, and are lukewarm as usual.

THE HURDWAR FAIR this year is to be one of unusual importance, the biggest that has been held for twelve years. It is particularly auspicious. The Fair begins about the 20th instant.

THE PRINCIPLE of mutual assurance as applied to life and fire is familiar to Englishmen. The French are, we learn, adopting it in regard to the future life. There is an Archbrotherhood of the Virgin for the Relief of the Dead, held at St. Mary. This society was incorporated enthusiastically by a brief of Pope Gregory, and raised to the dignity of an Archbrotherhood by Pio Nono. It has power to affinate other societies with a similar object, and is flourishing. Every subscribing member enjoys the assurance that, on his death, nine masses shall be said for the repose of his particular soul, and he has the joint-benefit of a low mass said every day for the dead members of the body, besides extra services on Sundays. The members of the association are to be found throughout France.

EDISON BEAT Bell with his carbon telephone, and has himself been beaten. Mr Gower, who was a colleague of Dr. Bell on a recent lecturing tour in America, and has since spent his whole time experimenting on the instrument, has discovered that by a modification of the magnet he can so intensify its speaking power as to make it shout forth what is given in whisper. A writer says that, we are not far from the day when a telephone will be placed on the table in the House of Commons in front of the Speaker, and you will have the debates in Parliament actually reproduced as it proceeds in Plymouth.

WE HAVE received the following from a correspondent:

We regret to state that the administration of the English Department of the High Court by Justice Ainslie is causing heart-burning and disappointment in the Subordinate Judicial Service. What is complained of is the absence of a fixed rule regarding the appointment, promotion, and transfer of Moonsiffs. We remember several cases in which Justice Jackson's nominations were disapproved by Sir Richard Temple, because he did not follow the rule of seniority. For a few months after he assumed charge of the English Department, Justice Ainslie followed that rule with a strictness, which made us think that he will proceed in the footsteps of Mr. Loch, and prove a thorough conservative. During this time we saw promotions of men from the 1st Grade of Moonsiff to the last Grade of Subordinate Judge, who to quote Mr. Justice Jackson "have not the ability or mental vigor which are requisite for the higher grades" His Lordship then become liberal for a short time, when while approving of the rule of seniority, did not hesitate to shut out those who were found incompetent or lazy. But even as a Liberal his Lordship sometimes promoted the very men whom he had superseded three or four months before. But recently we find his Lordship neither a Conservative, nor a Liberal, but a thorough-going Radical. We cannot for instance reconcile with his former policy the appointment of Babu Balloram Mullic to an officiating Small Cause Court Judgeship superseding the claims of four or five others. Nor do we understand why the claims of fourteen persons, six in the first Grade, and eight in the Second Grade, have been overlooked in appointing Babu Dwarka Nath Mitter, a Second Grade Moonsiff to the Acting Small Cause Court Judgeship of Hooghly and Sealdah. Babu Dwarka Nath may be a man of good talents, but are we to believe that all these fourteen persons are incompetent, or incapable of serving as Small Cause Court Judges? On referring to the Civil List we find that 6 or 7 of them do still exercise Small Cause Court powers. We find that 15 or 16 persons are acting as Moonsiff during the absence on leave or on deputation of the permanent incumbents, some more and some less than a year, yet on a sudden we were surprised to see Babu Hem Chunder Mitter at once made a permanent Moonsiff without an acting appointment. On comparing old CivilLists we find several Moonsiffs retained in some of the best stations in Bengal for 5, 6 and 7 years, while we observe transfers of men made recently who were located in one place for not more than a year or two. We may multiply instances, but we think that the few we have pointed out are sufficient to show that the policy latterly adopted by Justice Ainslie has been productive of much injustice, hardship and heart-burning. Justice Ainslie doubtless remembers that the hopes and aspirations of a very hard-working body of public servants are centred in His Lordship, and unless His Lordship adopts a fixed and equitable principle, for appointment and promotion, they cannot but grumble.

TUESDAY, 11TH MARCH.

A CORRESPONDENT thus recommends the restoration of the district of Sumbulpore to the Bengal Government:

This district is situated on the Eastern side of the River Mahanuddy, 167 miles W. N. W. from Cuttack, and now forms a part of the Chuttishghur Division in the Central Provinces, having a population of 452,348, and 13 Gurjat states scattered over a space of 4200 square miles. It was in the year 1849, this "extensive region in the centre of India, thinly inhabited by wild tribes scarcely less barbarous than they were when the hero of Ramayun marched through it on his expedition to Ceylon, and recruited his army, according to the epic, with Monkeys," was annexed by Lord Dalhousie Since its annexation to the year 1862, it formed a part and parcel of the Bengal Government. On the creation of the Government of the Central Provinces, in 1862, it was snatched away from the Orissa Division of the Bengal Government and incorporated with the former. Although this district, by its language and natural position forms an important part of the Orissa or Cuttack Division, this act of political vandalism was perpetrated by its first Chief-Commissioner—I mean Sir Richard Temple, under the necessity, I believe, of increasing the bulk and size of the newly created Government of the Central Provinces. What amount of hardship and injustice was perpetrated thereby, to the Uryas of Sambalpur, it is not for me to say. Now, as the question of the disruption of the Central Provinces is under the consideration of the India Government, it is high time, I think, for us all, to urge upon the Government, the feasibility or otherwise of restoring this district of Sambalpur to the Orissa Division which from its contiguity bears a strong resemblance to the other, not only in having a population who speak the same language follow the same faith and worship the same gods, but also in possessing a common line of water communication of the Mahanuddy river. It is through this water communication, the surplus produce of three districts of *Raipur*, *Bilashpur*, and *Sambulpur*, which comprise the jurisdction of the Chuttishghur Division finds its purchasers in the port of Cuttack and supplies the food to its inhabitants. The River Mahanuddy is not so navigable as the rivers of Gangetic Hindoosthan as having in its bed heaps of stones and rocks from its source down to *Boud*, a tributary Mehal of the Orissa Division. It is in consequence of these natural obstructions, navigation cannot be carried on, for purposes of commerce at all seasons of the year; and hence a considerable difficulty is experienced by the traders in bringing the surplus productions of Sambalpur to Cuttack. Had there been a proper communication between these two districts, the horrors of Orissa famine would have been to a great extent minimised. It is to this want of proper communication between these two districts supplemented with the circumstance of their having been placed under two different administrations, the one progressive and the other quite its opposite, that the backwardness of Sambalpur is mainly to be traced. The anomaly of placing a purely Uryah District like Sambalpur under the Central Provinces' Government, the injustice of its separation from the Orissa Division to which it is closely allied by language, religion and ties of commercial intercourse, would appear from the sad facts that I am now going to place before your readers. The court language being Uryah, all the higher ministerial appointments in the court of the Deputy Commissioner, are generally filled up by men indented from Cuttack. The educational agency is also similarly recruited. It would not be out of place to mention here that the district of Sambalpur was chosen by Sir Richard to be the experimental ground for testing the utility of his scheme of *mass education* and since his time every village of this district has been compulsorily provided with a school. There are thus 279 village patshallas in Sambalpur and the gurus of these so-called indegenous institutions are indented from Cuttack. It was in the year 1864 Major *Cumberlege*, an ex-deputy Commissioner of this district, appointed Babu Beerchand Patnaik, an inhabitant of Cuttack as Deputy Inspector to organize his scheme of mass education and it was this gentleman who translated several Bengali Books written by Pundit Ishur Chunder Bidyashagur into Uryah, for the use of the Uryah of Sambalpur. In recognition of these meritorious services, Babu Beerchand was only two years ago translated from Sambalpur to *Ungool*, a tributary Mehal of Cuttack as a Tehsildar of the latter place, by Sir Richard during his incumbency as Lieutenant Governor of Bengal.

WE HAVE received a copy of a memorial of the Muktears regarding the Legal Practitioners' Bill. The gist of their prayer is contained in the following paragraphs:

That your Excellency's memorialists have shown that the percentage claimed have all along been voluntarily paid by the pleaders for services rendered to them, that the services so rendered have not ceased to exist, that the usage has all along been sanctioned by custom, and recognized by the courts, that the pay allowed to them by their clients is so small, and is in the nature of retaining salary, such as that granted by Government to their pleaders, and that they as a body have passed examination in Law and are obliged to pay high fees for taking and renewing certificates, enabling them to practise.

That under the circumstances submitted above, your Excellency's memorialists humbly but earnestly pray that your Excellency in council will graciously be pleased either to remove the said section 12 from the Bill or to authorize the High Court to frame a schedule of fees, by which your Excellency's poor memorialists may be adequately remunerated.

A TRAVELLING CORRESPONDENT sends us the following:

Nagpur is a very large and ancient city. It was the capital of that branch of the Marhatta Dynasty known in history as the 'Bhonslas. It is now the seat of the Government of the Central Provinces. It is a matter of regret that nothing remains now to remind one of its former grandeur. The unimaginative Government of Lord Dalhousie reduced the Maharaja's palace to a *maidan* his splendid reception-room to a petty school and the country to a state of misery. The present Chief Commissioner Mr. Morris seems to be a mere routine official. He seems to be a tool in the hands of his secretaries. He passes nearly the whole year, like many big officials, in Panchmony—his favorite *Simla*. The only man who has done any substantial good to the country, is Sir Richard Temple. It was owing to his earnest efforts that Nagpur has been supplied with good drinking water by means of pipes. He also established one or two schools and introduced Marhathi as one of the court languages. But ever since the advent of Mr. Morris nothing has been done. You will be astonished to learn that there is not a single Government school in Nagpur. The petty school alluded to above is only *an aided one*. I am, dear sir, a great admirer of the Marhattas. But I am sorry to say that I am disappointed in those of Central India. There is no longer that manliness—that activity and vigour of which we read so much in History. In fact the present generation of Marhattas is a poor degenerated race—like us—Bengalis. There is nothing noticeable in them deserving of special mention.

M. DE LESSEPS is urging on the French Government the desirability of extending across the Sahara the system of telegraph lines which the French have already established in Tunis and Algeria. The line

across Tunis now extends to Tripoli, and it is proposed to connect Senegal and Algeria by telegraph. It is reported that the Arab traders find that their camels travel much faster when following the line of telegraph posts, and the people consequently respect the wires and poles most scrupulously. The Egyptian lines now extend as far as the Equator; and, with the extension of the South African telegraphs from Natal to Pretoria, an impetus will be given to the scheme for carrying an overland line across the continent.

WE ARE exceedingly sorry to notice that ill health compels Major Fenwick, joint editor of the *Civil and Military Gazette*, to proceed home. For more than twenty years he has been connected with the Indian press, and a more genial writer there has not been in the ranks of Indian journalism. It is always a pleasure to read his writings, and we hope we shall not be deprived of this pleasure for a long time. He is a warm friend of the people of this country.

WE ARE glad to learn that in consequence of a representation from the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association, the Government of India have been pleased to admit Edwin Ernest Davis into the Sub-Medical Department. It will be remembered that this Eurasian youth was rejected because of his colour, although he had successfully passed the necessary examination.

THE PLAGUE of rats, which first showed itself in the Deccan at Indapore, has now reached Sholapore. The rats come in swarms and commit great destruction, devouring twenty-five per cent. of the growing crops. The ryots do not dare to kill them, for in Sholapore, as at Indapore, they firmly believe that they are their own flesh and blood, who, having died of famine a year or two ago, now come back in another shape to share the produce of the fields. Is there none in the Deccan who can teach these poor deluded people of the folly of this superstitious belief?

THE LAST number of the *British Medical Journal* has the following extraordinary fact:—In a village in Russian Poland lives a Jewish widow 100 years old; she resides with her daughter, who is aged 84, and is herself great-great-great-grand-mother of a girl aged 13. Notwithstanding her advanced age the widow is strong, goes out alone, hears and sees perfectly well, and has retained all her mental powers. She is about to marry again; the bridegroom is much younger than the bride, having only reached the age of 88. He belongs also to the Jewish race.

WEDNESDAY, 12TH MARCH.

TWO NEW MEMBERS have been added to the Corporation of Calcutta, the Hon'ble Syud Ameer Hossain and Mr. W. Badcock C. S.

PONDECHERRY will be lighted with electric light. And Calcutta has bound itself hand and foot with a gas contract for 21 years!

WE ARE glad to see it stated that the Government of Bengal has given Babu Kunjolal Banerjea, 2nd Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, five years' extension of service. Babu Kunjolal is healthy and strong, and it would have been a serious loss to the public service if he had been forced to retire under the cruel fifty-five years' rule. We confess that judging by his appearance we could hardly believe that he had attained the disqualifying age of 55 years.

THE JANUARY number of *Fraser's Magazine* contains an admirable article on India headed "How to treat India." We give the following extracts from it:

"The introduction of Europeans into positions where they are not wanted, and the paying them twice as much as necessary is constantly increasing the expenses of administration. All the routine of Government could be carried on equally well by natives, they would be necessarily devoted to us, since they would owe the retention of their position to the continuance of our power, and would cost one-fourth as much as Europeans.

There is no earthly reason why Englishmen should be employed for any purpose for which it would be possible to get a native, at a quarter of the expense, equally efficient. It is absurd that the accountants, clerks, revenue collectors, and other civil servants of the Indian Government should be anything but Indians. They are on the spot, they are the cheapest, they must know the country better than any one else, and are in no conceivable way less fitted for such work than the very best of Europeans. Administered by natives, the Empire of India would not the less belong to England than when administered by Englishmen. It is no advantage to England to send out these hordes of civil servants to India. They would be employed infinitely better in colonising Australia or New Zealand. Not only are they an overwhelming burden on a country like India, which ought, if its poverty were taken into consideration, to have the most economical system of government we could possibly give it, but they are absolutely no gain to England either, we are undoubtedly supposed to be benefited by the influx of capital which the Indian pensions bring into the country annually, but it is one of the most incontrovertible propositons of political economy that a country is only benefited by capital spent productively. Is a single penny of the Indian pensions ever spent productively? Are they employed for any other purpose than the maintenance in England of so many useless mouths, in the shape of the pensioners and their families? It is a favourite saying that the Civil Service offers an 'opening' for so many young English gentlemen. But each young gentleman who finds an 'opening' finds it at the cost of the unlucky natives of India, who are obliged to maintain him for the rest of his days, though they don't want him at all, and in due course he has probably a family which grows up to so many more young men and women of rather expensive ideas, all looking expectantly for 'opening'; so that the last state of the country is worse than the first.

If the Government wants engineers, it should establish a college in India to educate natives for that purpose; they would in every way be equal to the young gentleman who go out from Coopers Hill, and would not cost probably one-fourth as much, while there have been already educated in Government colleges enough natives to supply the whole Civil Service with recruits, who now, for want of something better to do, occupy themselves in writing seditious articles upon the Government, Englishmen appear ready to think it unjust to draw a direct tribute of ten millions from India, but what would such a tribute be to the thirty millions of increased expenditure during the last twenty-four years?

But we live in the days of imperialism, which means repression of the legitimate aspirations of the people, aye even the expression of independent native opinion, *vide* the reply of the Viceroy to the British Indian Association on the cotton duties.

THE CALCUTTA CORRESPONDENT of the *Times* has the following on the Vernacular Press:

It has, during the recent controversy on the Afghan policy, been occasionally asserted that the action of the Government is viewed by Natives with suspicion and dislike. I venture to think that such is far from being the case. The Bengali papers, it is true, have for the most part taken the side of the Opposition, and advocated their views in language which sometimes verges on disloyalty; but the tone of the Vernacular Press is eminently loyal and sympathetic—a character especially marked in the Press of Upper India. Then why have the Vernacular Press Act at all? His Excellency the Viceroy has told us that the tone of the Vernacular Press has improved. The same testimony reaches us from another quarter. In common fairness to the people and to relieve them from an unjust and unmerited suspicion, the Act should be repealed.

But when the Bill was passed the Viceroy said—the empire was in imminent danger owing to the liberty enjoyed by the Vernacular Press!

WE OBSERVE that Babu Bollyechand Sen, teacher, Patna Medical School, has been appointed to act for Moulavi Tamiz Khan in the Campbell Medical School, who takes leave for three months. This gentleman was passed over when the teachership of Surgery in the Campbell School fell vacant last year. Would the Government condescend to enquire into the cause of the supercession of this meritorious officer?

MORE ENGLISH SCHOOLS IN CALCUTTA! We have received the prospectus of another school to be established in this city under the name of "Indian Institution." The tutorial staff has among others two M. As. and four B. As.

THURSDAY 13TH MARCH.

MR. MORRIS, Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, has obtained leave for six months. Mr. Charles Grant, Acting Judicial Commissioner, will act for Mr. Morris. Mr. Crosthwaite will again officiate as Judicial Commissioner. Mr. Venning, Deputy Commissioner, Nagpore, and lately Officiating Secretary will act as Commissioner of Jubbulpur for Mr. Crosthwaite.

THE REPORT on the explorations of Captain Woodchorpe and Lieutenant Harman in the Miri and Mishmi Hills on the Northern frontier of Assam, which has lately been submitted to the Secretary of State, points to the belief that the obstacles to exploration in this direction if undertaken at the best season and with a suitable equipment of porters will not prove so great as has hitherto been supposed. The Secretary of State thinks that a correct knowledge of the rivers Subansiri, Dihong, and Dibong, involves the solution of geographical problems of high and long standing interest and hopes that a further examination of those rivers may be effected.

THE GOOD people of Berhampore did a handsome thing in gathering together to do honor to a retiring native Professor of the local College. Pundit Ramgoti Nyaratna, Assistant Professor of Sanskrit, was attached to the Berhampore College for nearly 14 years, and during that time he rendered excellent service to the institution and endeared himself to all classes of the native community. He is transferred on promotion, and the meeting to bid him farewell was got up at the instance of the Moorshedabad Association, which recorded a resolution expressive of their gratitude for the valuable services rendered and of their sorrow at his departure.

SIR STUART Bayley K.C.S.I., Chief Commissioner of Assam is now on a tour of inspection. A correspondent furnishes us with a description of the reception accorded to him by the native community of Dhubri headed by the young Raja of Bijnee. The reception which took place on the 14th ultimo was on a princely style and great credit is due to the young Raja for the loyal spirit evinced by him on the occasion. Sir Stuart was highly pleased with the honor done to him. We are glad to notice that the Raja of Bijnee is taking such a prominent part in public movements. His liberality and public spirit on other occasions have been equally conspicuous.

FOR THE first time since the assessment of the License tax commenced we have received a report of its fairness and justice. A correspondent writing from Dogachee in the Pubna district says that none of the trading classes of that place have been dissatisfied with the assessment of the circle officer of Pubna. There were a few appeals from his assessments, and these were disposed of by the Collector Mr. Clay to the satisfaction of all parties.

SIR R. TEMPLE made a splendid speech at the breakfast given to the officers of the Bombay Volunteers. We give the following extract from it:

Gentlemen, we often hear it said that Bombay is a rich prize comparatively defenceless from the sea in the event of war. We used to hear stories about some distant Russian squadron that was to traverse our Eastern seas. I don't myself think that such a squadron will ever come. Moreover, I am far from saying that Bombay is as well defended as it ought to be, but this I venture to think upon careful naval and military calculations that if a squadron of that sort does come—let it come to-morrow if it dare—that we shall give a good account of it (Loud applause.) Gentlemen, various nations at various ages have employed various symbols to guard those homes and those objects which they loved best. You know the ancient Persians used to put up stone lions at their gates; the Assyrians used to put up winged bulls; the Egyptians put up sphinxes, and the Chinese put up griffins, but Bombay puts up big guns—(laughter and applause)—and guns, gentlemen, that have a 10-inch diameter at the bore, that weigh 18 tons each that will send forth a short of 400 lbs. with about 70lbs. charge of powder That, gentlemen, is the emblem with which Bombay breathes a spirit not only of defence but of defiance, to her possible maritime foes. Gentlemen, we hear those stories told, and very amusing they are, of what would happen if a hostile squadron should visit us. Fancy its coming! Just imagine the *tableau* gentlemen. Imagine a hostile squadron coming to Bombay and expecting to capture suddenly a hundred thousand tons, by measurement, of British shipping laden with I know not how many millions worth of freight! They would come, and at last they would get to this celebrated harbour, to the mouth of it. All of a sudden looking through their telescopes, they would find nothing absolutely but water as bare as the open sea. The mercantile shipping has gone behind the shelter of the Island of Elephanta, and the enemy's telescopes discover nothing but one or two little black things on the rocks, so small as hardly to be visible and just a couple of turrets in the water hardly distinguishable by themselves. But all of a sudden from those little objects there comes just a puff of smoke, perhaps one little spit of fire, and in an instant their armour plating is pierced through with a crash and they must go to the bottom They have quite forgotten that our guns are calculated to pierce 9·07 inches of armour plating at 4,000 yards. So perish always the enemies of England.

TWO IMPORTANT Railway projects are talked of, the first being a line from Hazipore to Bettiah connecting Muzafferpore. This will attract the Nepal trade. The other project is to have a line from Gya to Hazaribagh.

A CORRESPONDENT signing himself a Hindustani Vakil suggests some material alterations in Section 4 of the s Legal Practitioners' Bill now before the Legislative Council of His Excellency the Viceroy. We unmarise his suggestions below:

"The ruling contained in this section has been bodily transferred from the existing law on the subject (Act XX of 1865) and under this law the pleaders of the Bombay, Madras and N. W. P. High Courts were allowed to practise in any other Courts before 1873. In 1873 the restriction to the Bengal Pleaders to practise in the N. W. P. High Court arose from the fact of a similar restriction being laid by the Calcutta High Court coming to the notice of the N. W. P. High Court. Since then the examination of the Pleaders of the N. W. P. has been made difficult by its being made compulsory upon the candidates to have a thorough knowledge of the Indian laws. If the object of the Calcutta High Court in placing the restriction referred to upon the N. W. P. Pleaders was to benefit the Bengal Pleaders, they have defeated that object by shutting to them the door of all the Courts in the N. W. Provinces. If the B. L. Pleaders of the Calcutta High Court be superior lawyers they have nothing to fear from the competition of the Pleaders of the N. W. P. Besides there is not much to fear on the score of this competition, as the Pleaders elsewhere know that their other friends have over-crowded the High Court of Calcutta and they would prefer to remain where they are. The law gives the High Court discretion to admit such pleaders and it never contemplated that their discretion would be abused. Muktears are not expressly prohibited by the Code of Criminal Procedure from defending a prisoner at the Sessions or other superior Courts, but they may be allowed to do so with the permission of the Courts. If this permission be systematically withheld it will be an abuse of discretion. The Calcutta and the N. W. P. High Courts are jealous of each other's powers and the poor pleaders suffer on account of that jealousy. Now that the Legal Practitioners' Bill is under the consideration of the Legislative Council, the Act ought to be so amended as to make such misunderstandings impossible. In 1876 a circular was issued by the High Court of Bengal prohibiting

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Zillah Judges to allow N. W. P. pleaders to practise in their Courts. In consequence of this circular two of the N W. P. pleaders practising in Mymensing were ordered to discontinue their practice. But when the Calcutta High Court's notice was drawn to Section 45 of the Pleaders' Act a majority of the Judges ruled that the pleaders referred to were competent to plead but a respectable minority thought otherwise. It is noticeable that such divergence of opinion does not exist among the Judges of the High Courts of Madras, Bombay and the N. W. P."

FRIDAY, 14TH MARCH.

REMARKING on the measures taken by the Government of India to further the establishment of schools in this country for the training of natives for the position of foremen mechanics in the Public Works Department, the Secretary of State expresses his satisfaction at the success of the schools established one at Dehree in Bengal, and the other at Roorkee in the North Western Provinces. Communications have been addressed by the India Office to the Governments of Bombay and Madras with a view to ascertaining if schools of a like nature have been instituted in those Presidencies.

THE Secretary of State has sanctioned the revised estimate amounting to Rs. 94,43,703 for the Jhelum-Rawul Pindi Section of the Punjab Northern State Railway.

THE Secretary of State has expressed his concurrence in the Resolution issued by the Government of India to the effect that applications for sanction to the payment of gratuities to the widows and families of deceased employes of any Guaranteed Railway Company, shall not in the absence of any grounds for exceptional liberality on the part of Government be in future entertained. His Lordship however suggests that subscription to a Provident Fund (which the Government might aid under certain conditions) should be made compulsory on all employes henceforward admitted into the Railway Service.

MR. WYMAN has withdrawn his candidature for the Secretaryship to the Calcutta Corporation. A fresh election will be made.

THE PEOPLE OF BOMBAY have resolved to hold a public meeting against the repeal of the import duties. They should petition Parliament.

SATURDAY, 15TH MARCH.

THERE is so much distress among the poorer classes in Lahore on account of high prices of food-grains that a public subscription has been set on foot for their relief.

FOR THE FIRST TIME the *Government Gazette* of Bombay did not appear last week. It was delayed owing to the great bulk of certain papers published in it.

ONE NOTABLE circumstance in the present position of trade between India and Europe, says a contemporary, is that so much larger proportion of our exports seem to be going to the continent instead of to the United Kingdom. Recently, while vessels put on the berth for Liverpool or London have to lie week after week slowly filling up, other ships loading for Havre, Marseillies, and the Italian ports complete their cargo in half the time.

A PARIS NEWS-WRITER says: The traffic returns of the Suez Canal in January exhibit a marked falling off from the two preceding years; the tolls amounted to £2,170,000, received from 117 ships, against £2,859,738, and 156 ships in January, 1878 and £2,810,131 and 139 ships in 1877. All this is due to depression of trade.

THE RAST GOFTAR announces the death of Imdad Khan, the Indore Musician, who was so well known in native musical circles in the Deccan. Imdad Khan was a great master in his way, and was much sought after by amateurs. He used to lead an extremely simple and retired life, and those who knew him for years are of opinion that his loss to native society is irreparable.

WE GIVE the following abstract of an oppressive impressment of labour from the *Behar Herald* :—

About 100 Kahars were taken to the Thanna at Bankipore in batches on the 10th and 11th instant. These men were followed by a number of bewailing women, mothers, sisters, and wives perhaps. These persons we learnt had been forcibly seized by the Police, who had received order to do so for the purpose of being sent elsewhere, for some public work. This seizure of innocent men, gentlemen's servants many of them, had caused a panic among the kahars who were having recourse to all sorts of shifts and expedients to conceal themselves. The Sub-Inspector of the Thanna in answer to an enquiry said that a general order of the District Superintendent authorized the Police from Peerbohor to Malsalania to arrest all kahars, who would be pointed out by the kahar Chowdharies with their friends. On referring to the statute book for legal authority for their arrest we found that the law that there was had been repealed and that there was no substitute in its place. Application was made to the Magistrate by some of the pleaders for the release of the kahars as their arrest and detention was illegal. The Joint-Magistrate to whom the application was made said that the District Superintendent had received a telegram to send 80 dooly bearers for service in Burmah, who enquiring whether he is to impress them was informed by wire that those only should be engaged who would be willing to go. The Joint Magistrate referred the pleader to the District Superintendent with an assurance that their clients will be released if they were unwilling to go. The Commissioner, when referred to, said that he did not well know how he could interfere, but that he did what lay in his power and that he has subsequently learnt that all but 32 men who had had accepted service and who had received some advance had been set free.

We hope due notice of this matter will be taken by Government.

WE HAVE received a tabular statement shewing the results of the University Examinations in F. A. B. A. and M. A. from 1873 to 1879. From this we see that the Presidency College passed the largest percentage of candidates, which, however, has been gradually decreasing. Next to the Presidency College stands the Free Church College. The last on the list is the Doveton College, but it entered the lists late.

THE LAST number of the *Indian Charivari* contains a cartoon of our girl graduates. The artist has been not at all happy. But for the nose-ring the girls would have passed muster as young men without beards. The lines on the "Disappointed Deputation" are flat.

THERE were 245 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 8th March, of which 36 were from cholera, 25 from small-pox, 80 from fever, 35 from bowel complaints, 9 from tetanus, 12 from asthma and other lung diseases and the rest from other causes. Eight children were still-born and 8 persons died from old age. The mortality among non-Asiatics and mixed races was 18.

WE ARE glad to learn from the *Bengalee* that the Indian Association have resolved to hold a public meeting to petition Parliament regarding the reduction of the cotton duties and the payment of the cost of the Affghan war out of the Indian revenue. This is as it should be. The general community ought to strengthen the hands of the British Indian Association.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Report on the Meteorology of India in 1877. By John Eliot M. A. 2. Report on the Administration of the Meteorological Department of the Government of India for 1877-78. 3. Records of the Geological Survey of India. Vol. XII. Part I. 1879. 4. Gulzar-i-Inglistan wa Kharistan Roos being an English translation of the Urdu pamphlet lately published by Pandit Luchme Narain on the duty of the natives of India in the event of war with Russia. 5. The Koran in Bengali No. I. by Rajendra Nath Dutt. 6 The Indian Prophet or a Review of Babu K. C. Sen's Lecture entitled "Am I an inspired Prophet," a lecture delivered at the E B. Theatre Hall, Dacca. 7. Sahitya Bhandar or Treasury of Literature in Bengali No. I. 8. Address of Sir Alexander Arbuthnot at the Convocation of the Calcutta University.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, 7th March.—In the house of Commons, this evening, the Under-Secretary for India made a statement that in consequence of disturbances, the India Government had deemed it right to send reinforcements to British Burmah of two native Regiments and one British Cavalry Regiment.

7th.—Advices have been received that a sanguinary struggle between the partisans of rival pretenders followed the death of the Amir at Mazar-i-shereef, and that the partisans of Yakoob Khan were victorious in the end.

8th.—Further official correspondence, relative to the Affghan campaign, has been published, and includes a speech made by General Roberts on the 26th December. Consols—96¼ being a fall of ¼.

8th.—The Polytechnic Institution has been totally destroyed by fire. The Board of Trade returns of Imports for the past month amount to £28,687,500, showing a decrease of £350,000 The Export returns for the past month to £12,750,000 showing a decrease of £2,187,500, as compared with the same period last year.

9th.—The latest advices from Natal describe the general situation as unchanged. Colonel Pearson's Column at Ekowe had been attacked by a large number of Zulus whom he repulsed, at the same time inflicting enormous loss on them, and pursuing them for a long distance after the action. The condition of affairs in the Transvaal is disquieting, in consequence of the hostile attitude of the native chiefs.

10th.—The Polytechnic was only partially burnt down.

10th.—Central Asian advices state that tranquility has been re-established at Mazari-Sherif, and that Yakoob Khan has been proclaimed Amir of Affghanistan.

11th.—The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs said, in reply to a question, that a Manchester firm had despatched arms and ammunition to Mozambique, but that the British Government had taken steps to prevent them reaching the Zulus. He also stated that the Government was disposed to recommend to the Sultan, that Englishmen should administer the Turkish finances, if asked for.

11th.—In the House of Commons, last night, Colonel Stanley said he intends proposing that a Committee be re-appointed to discuss the question of the employment of Indian troops abroad. Lord Cranbrook stated that General Roberts was without instructions relative to the policy of annexation expounded in his speech at the Kurram Durbar on the 26th of December. At the same time his Lordship said Government did intend to annex a portion of that territory. Sir Stafford Northcote said the Indian Government was on the eve of communications with Yakoob Khan, which had perhaps already commenced.

11th.—In the House of Commons last night, the Under-Secretary for India replying to a question, said that increase in the number of Indian Civil servants was seriously occupying the attention of Government. The Affghan Embassy has left Tashkend without any massage from Russia to the Amir.

11th.—The new contract with the Peninsular and Oriental Company for the conveyance of the mails to and from the East, was presented to Parliament this evening. The average rate of speed is eleven knots between Brindisi and Alexandria, and Suez and Bombay; and 10½ knots between Suez and Shanghai. The total amount of subsidy is £370,000 sterling. Penalties will be absolute.

12th.—A despatch from Lord Salisbury to Lord Loftus has been published, dated the 26th January, which says that the action of Russian officials in Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia is contrary to the Berlin Treaty, and aggravates the difficulty in executing it. Lord Salisbury urges the immediate separation of Bulgaria from Roumelia, and that Roumelia should have a separate Militia. The troopship *Jumna*, left Portsmouth, yesterday for Bombay.

15.—In the house of Commons, last night, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said that re-inforcements were being sent to Burmah in compliance with the request of the Resident at Mundalay and the Chief Commissioner of British Burmah, on account of the warlike preparations of the king of Burmah and the recent disturbances in Mandalay. The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs said, in reply to a question, the Government had been informed that the arms and ammunition shipped to Mozambique were not intended for the Zulus. The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that Government had no intention to replace Lord Chelmsford. The Mediterranean Squadron under Admiral Hornby has been ordered to Gallipoli. Mr. Douglas Straight has been appointed Puisne Judge of the High Court of Judicature in the North-West Provinces.

Berlin, 7th March.—The German Parliament has rejected the Bill giving the Reichstag powers to punish its members for the purpose of maintaining Parliamentary discipline.

Rome, 7th March.—Sentence of death has been passed on the perpetrator of the attempted assassination of King Humbert.

Paris, 7th March.—A report of the Committee of the Chamber of Deputies demands the impeachment of the Cabinets under the Duc de Broglie and M. Rochebouet. Government, however, has refused to accept the conclusions of the Chamber's Committee.

8th.—The Report of the Chamber of Deputies' Committee accuses the Broglie Cabinet of an attempt to establish a dictatorship; also of frequent violations of the constitution. The Rocheborut Cabinet is accused of a tempting a *coup d' etat.*

Madrid, 7th March.—In consequence of the difficulty arising from the economic situation in Cuba, the Spanish Ministry has resigned. A new Ministry has been formed by General Martinez Campos, who will hold the appointment of War Minister. M Molins is the new Foreign Minister, The Ministers of Finance and Marine remain unchanged.

Paris, March 9th.—The Chamber of Deputies will probably reject the motion for the impeachment of the Cabinets of the Duc de Broglie and M. Rochebouet. Marshal MacMahon demands that if the resolution for their impeachment be adopted, he shall be included.

13th.—The Chamber of Deputies to-day rejected the motion of the Commitee for the impeachment of the Duc de Broglie and Rochebouet Cabinets by a large majority. The Government had announced its intention of resigning, if the resolution was adopted.

Alexandria, March 9th.—A new Egyptian Ministry has been formed under the Presidency of Prince Tewfik. The Ministers of Finance and Public Works remain unchanged. Nubar Pacha is excluded.

Constantinople, March 10th.—The British ironclad Squadron now in the Sea of Marmora, will return to Besika Bay in a few days. Turkish troops have re-occupied Adrianople.

St Petersburg, March 10th.—An official Russian statement that the plague has disappeared at Astrakan, no cases having occurred since the 9th of February.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Thursday, the 20th Inst. at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Distribution of Static Electricity.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, on Saturday, the 22nd Inst next, at 4 P. M.

Subject: Water and Compounds of Nitrogen and Ozone.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1879.

THE BUDGET.

IF we remember aright Lord Salisbury questioned the wisdom of Lord Northbrook's proceedure in not presenting the Budget to the Legislative Council when there was no proposal for fresh taxation [requiring legislative sanction. It is always useful to have the financial measures of Government discussed in the

Legislative Council whether or no any legislative enactment be necessary, but the present Government of India, over-sensitive as it is of public opinion, could not certainly be expected to create an opportunity for an expression of opinion. And so it has avoided the Legislative Council in the matter of the Budget. The present Budget statement has taken a novel form. Hitherto it was the practice to allow the Finance Minister to make his own statement and then for the Government of India, to review it in a resolution. But as Sir John Strachey to all intents and purposes now constitutes the Government of India, he has merged his usual financial statement into a general Government resolution. The Financial Statement for 1879-80 comes before the public not with the *imprimatur* of the Finance Minister, but of the Government of India. We give below an abstract of the statement:

Financial Statement for 1879-80 published to-day: Accounts 1877-78 shew Revenue £58,919,301; Ordinary Expenditure, £62 512,388. Excess Ordinary Expenditure, £3,543,087 owing to Famine. Capital Expenditure on productive Public Works, £4,791,052. Net result almost identical with *Regular Estimates*.

Regular Estimates for 1878 79 show—
Revenue £64.680,000;
Ordinary Expenditure £63,380,000;
Surplus £1,300,000.

This surplus is, after paying whole charges of war for current year, estimated £670,000, and excess loss by Exchange £100,000. Capital Expenditure on Productive Public works £4,599,000.

Budget Estimates 1879-80 show Revenue £64,562,000. Ordinary Expenditure, £65,957,000. This includes £200,000 for war. Excess Ordinary Expenditure £1,395,000. Capital Expenditure on Productive Public works reduced to £3,500,000. Cotton Duties on all goods containing yarn of counts not above 30*s*. remitted at estimated cost of £200.000, of which £150,000 this year. Revision of Customs Tariff values causes further loss of £42,000. War estimated to cost £2 670,000 in both years.

Exchange estimated nearly 1½*d* worse than last year; cost of supplying net current requirements of Home Treasury exceeds what it would have been but for this fall by £1,364,362 Estimates shew Loss by Exchange £3,952,000 being £952,000 more than Budget estimated last year. But for fresh loss by Exchange, which has more than swept away whole of last year's new Famine taxation, the estimated surplus apart from war would have been £1,969,000.

Additions to Registered Debt—

	£
In 1877-78	7,345,416
In 1878-79	4,498,000
In 1879-80	3,826,500

but sets-off of Loans to Native States and repayments of Railway Capital reduce net increase of Debt to £6,388,606 £2,748,000. and £3,626,500; the £2,748,000 in 1878-79 includes £1,393,457 cash subscriptions to transfer Loan 1879. Four and half per cent. Loan in India notified for Five Crores of Rupees on conditions of Transfer Loan 1879 payable in five instalments, on 30th of the May June, July and August and 13th September. Tenders to be opened on Monday, May 12th. Of this Five Crores about £1550.000 will recoup Treasury for the discharge of untransferred Balance of 6½ per cent Loan on 1st May, leaving Net amount of Loan in India therefore £3,450,000 London Bills estimated at 1,835 lakhs, or an average of about 36½ lakhs weekly. No increased taxation proposed now because change of relative value of gold and silver, which alone has disturbed satisfactory financial condition, is under consideration of Home Government upon motion of Indian Government.

Closing Balance in India £12,988,800 this year, and £12,068,600 next year.

The Budget statement in our humble opinion points to three conclusions. Firstly, that the financial position of the empire, notwithstanding increasing revenue, is most serious; 2ndly, that the remission of taxation in the present condition of the finances is dangerous; and, 3rdly, that the financial administration of the country is simply a hap-hazard one. Notwithstanding all the flourish made about anticipated surplus it is admitted that the deficit shows upon the face of the estimate for the coming year £1,395,000. Excluding the book credit in the Military Funds, we read, the gross deficit of public revenue is (five million one hundred nine thousands) £5,109,000. But as £1,550,000 has to be repaid to the holders of the Five-and-a-half per cent. Loan, and provision must be made for some other repayments, the gross deficiency is £6,700,800,of which,upon the estimates, £1,200,000 will be provided from the Public Balances. A notification is published inviting a Loan in India of Five Crores of the remainder. In making this announcement the Governor-General in Council thinks it desirable to present the following brief statement of the finances of the four years, 1876-80. Excluding the Fund credits and including provision for the remittance of the whole current requirements of the Home Treasury, the deficit of the four years amounts to £24,863,000. Extraordinary Public Expenditure has been or is being incurred during this period as follows:

	£
Famine, including loss of Revenue... ...	9,400,000
War	2,670,000
Productive Public Works Capital Expenditure...	16,603,000
Total	£28,673,000

To meet this tremendous deficit the Government has added twenty millions to the registered debt and the current revenue has contributed nearly 4,000,000. Further it has raised about 2½ millions additional taxation in the course of the last two years. Thus:

	£
Bengal.—P. W. Cess 1877	338,000
Punjab.—Famine Cess 1878	200,000
N. W. P. and Oudh.—Famine Cess	426,000
Central Provinces.—Famine Cess	12,860
License tax	750,000
Salt tax in Madras and Bombay	800,000
	2,526,860

And notwithstanding the heavy famine taxation, we now find that the Famine Fund has practically become a myth. The Resolution says: "The insurance provided against future famines has virtually ceased to exist; and the difficulties in the way of fiscal and commercial and administrative reform have been greatly aggravated. Nor can it be any way assumed that the evil will not continue and go on increasing. Under such circumstances it is extremely difficult to follow any settled financial policy; for the Government cannot even approximately tell what income will be required to meet the necessary expenditure of the State." Could anything be more humiliating than this confession? And yet in the same breath the Government has reduced the import duties. We will notice the last mentioned subject separately, but we cannot refrain from remarking here that notwithstanding the desperate efforts made by Government to make the two ends meet, the financial outlook it cannot be denied is most embarrassing. The Government of India has repeatedly declared that an annual surplus of £2,000,000 is necessary, in ordinary times, to provide the means of protecting, so far as may be possible, the country against famine, and leave a margin such as every solvent State ought to maintain, to meet unforeseen contingencies. But it has abandoned all hope of obtaining such a surplus in the coming year. The surplus of the present year is mainly due to excess receipts from opium, and if this freak of fortune had not occurred, the whole of the proceeds of famine taxation would have been absorbed in meeting current expenditure. So much for the financial position of the State! We are told that the ultimate burden caused by the Affghan war will not occur, and that the assistance which will, it is hoped, be given from the British treasury removes all present anxiety on this head. But we are not informed what form this assistance will take. We do not know whether it will be only a temporary or permanent relief. The loss by exchange is indeed serious. Nothing it seems can arrest the evil. And while the deficit amounts to about a million and a half, the debt is to be increased by about £5,000,000, the loss by exchange is estimated at about £4,000,000 and the cost of the Afghan war about two millions and two-thirds, the Government has deliberately sacrificed last year about two-thirds of a million by the reduction of the Salt duty in the Bengal Presidency and has this year resolved to surrender £200,000 by repealing the Import Duty in respect of certain cotton fabrics. Such is the financial statesmanship which guides the vessel of the Indian State. Amid the crash which has followed, the Government has not had the courage to impose fresh burdens upon the country, but it has simply put off the evil day. Next year we are afraid they will not be able to conceal the rotten condition of our financial system, and once it is laid bare even the staunchest supporters of the present policy will, we fear, shrink from the hideous spectacle.

THE COTTON DUTIES.

IN his reply to the Deputation of the British Indian Association on the subject of the cotton duties Lord Lytton said: "I desire to take this opportunity of once more declaring, without ambiguity, my settled determination to give to this sound decision the earliest and the widest practical effect in my power." And what His Lordship then said he has practically carried out. Neither reason nor justice, neither the appeal of the nation, nor his own previous words have had any effect upon him. Reason does not condemn the import duty on cotton goods, because the pressure upon the poorest of the poor is infinitessimal. Justice does not require the repeal of the duty, for with debt and deficit staring in the face would it not be the height of injustice to deprive India of a source of revenue innocuous but at the same time prolific? His own words to Manchester before coming out to India were that "it is the paramount and primary obligation of every Indian Government to make the two ends meet, and avoid deficit, debt, and fresh taxation." And even Parliament while declaring that the import duty so far as it was protective should be done away with, at the same time affirmed that that result should be accomplished when the finances of India would permit it. Such being the condition of the question of the import duty we are no less surprised than sorry to see that the Viceroy, regardless of the actual condition of Indian finance, of the feelings of the people of India, of Parliamentary declarations and of his own utterances, should have remitted the import duties to the extent of £200,000 while admitting that under existing circumstances of Indian finance "it is extremely difficult to follow any settled financial policy." The arguments advanced in support of the remission of the cotton duties simply beg the question. Last year the duty on coarse goods was remitted upon the ground that it was protective in its operation. This year it is urged that the area of exemption is not sufficient. We are told that it is not reasonable that "certain goods should be admitted free, while large quantities of goods of almost precisely the same character in every thing but name remain liable to duty. No measure falling short of the exemption from duty of all cotton goods containing no yarn finer than 30*s*. can be defended, and this measure can no longer be delayed. Its adoption will, for the present at least, remove the directly protective character of these duties." The Government would have gone further, but cannot make up the deficit which stands in its way. It cannot surrender the whole revenue, and so it has contented itself with this small instalment, which involves a loss of revenue to the extent of about £200,000. The Resolution says: "The Governor-General in Council does not underrate the importance of the step taken as it will be, when no surplus of revenue over expenditure is expected; when the estimates show a deficit, and when the arrangements by which it was hoped that protection against famine would, so far as was possible, be secured for the country, have for the time failed to produce the desired effect." "The pledges given from time to time in regard to the gradual removal of the duties on cotton goods, have always been made subject to the condition that their fulfillment must depend on the position of the Indian finances. It certainly cannot now be asserted, in the face of the great and increasing loss occasioned by the fall in the value of silver in relation to gold, that the financial condition of India is satisfactory." Such being the case may we ask whether the Government is consistent in remitting any portion of the cotton duties, whether it is really acting in the interest of India by making the remission, whether in fact this move does not amount to a bid for popularity with Manchester? But read what the Government has to say in defence of the measure:

The Governor-General in Council is not unmindful of the fact that India is still engaged in the prosecution of war. He cannot, however, recognise in this fact any reason whatever for the postponement of a necessary fiscal reform. The consideration of Her Majesty's Government will, he trusts, enable India, not indeed to throw off her just liability for the charges of a necessary war undertaken for the protection of her own interests, but to meet those charges in a way which will throw no serious burden on her resources.

The real question which the Governor-General in Council has had to consider is this:—Ought the Government to look upon the fresh financial difficulties arising from the fall in the exchange as a sufficient reason for refusing to sanction any

former remission in the duty on cotton goods? And this question, His Excellency in Council considered, must be answered in the negative. The injury and loss which these duties are causing both to the English producer and to the Indian consumer, and to the true interests of Indian commerce and manufactures, are certain. Measures which, for the present at least, will almost completely remove the protective, and therefore the most objectionable feature in these duites, can be taken without surrendering any very considerable amount of revenue. The difficulty caused by the increased loss by exchange are great but they will not practically be aggravated to an appreciable extent by the loss of £200,000. If the fresh fall in the exchange should prove to be temporary, such a loss will possess slight importance. If, on the other hand, the loss by exchange does not diminish, and no other remedies can be applied, it will become necessary to take the improvement of the financial position but the retention of the import duties on cotton goods will not thereby be rendered possible. On the contrary, such retention will become more difficult than ever.

"It is of course true that such questions as these cannot wisely be settled on economic grounds alone; but, in the present case, the Governor General in Council is satisfied that the political are fully as weighty as the economic reason for the removal of the duties now under consideration. As observed by the Secretary of State these duties place "two manufacturing communities upon whose well-being the prosperity of the Empire largely depends, in a position not only of competition but of political hostility to each other. * * The impost is too much at variance with the declared policy of this country to be permanently upheld; but if the task of dealing with it be long postponed, it will be the subject of controversy between interests far more powerful and embittered than those that are contending over it at the present time." "I will not dwell again at length" the Secretary of State wrote in another despatch, "upon the political reasons which furnish, in my judgment, the weightiest arguments in favour of the course which I have urged upon your Excellency's Government. I need hardly insist further upon the danger of keeping open between two great communities of Her Majesty's subjects an irritating controversy which can be closed by one, and only one solution. It is difficult to overstate the evil of permitting an industry so large as the cotton manufacture in India is certain to become, to grow up under the influence of a system which a wide experience has proved to be unsound, and which is opposed to the deliberate policy of England, nor can I view without serious apprehension, unless it should be the result of natural causes, the gradual contraction of a trade which constitutes one of the strongest bands of material union between England and India."

"In thus ascribing great weight to the political reasons for the removal of these duties the Government of India desires that its motive may not be misunderstood. It is not for the sake of averting an embittered controversy, yielding anything which it would otherwise be unwilling to concede. The impossibility of maintaining protective duties is indisputable and ovious. Such duties must sooner or later, inevitably, be removed whenever they are to be found. The existing duties on a great variety of articles comprised in the Indian tariff are, as was shown in the financial statement for last year, undoubtedly protective, and they are constantly becoming more so, as the industrial and manufacturing resources of India develope. But the removal of protective duties must necessarily be a work of time dependent on the state of the finances and on the expedients which can be devised for replacing the revenue lost. The Government of India deems it right to begin by a single measure of relief which will at once and direc ly reach one great and important branch of manufacturing industry, rather than by spreading its exemptions over a large area in which their effect, though not lost, might be ill-defined and uncertain.

"The measure now announced has been adopted in the sincere belief that it is required by the true interests of the people of India. The late Viceroy, the Earl of Northbrook, declared that "in all Financial questions those interests are the only considerations which the Government of India has to regard." The Governor-General in Council unreservedly repeats that declaration. This measure will be a serious step towards the fulfilment of the pledges repeatedly given by the Secretary of State and by the Government of India—pledges which received the strongest possible confirmation from the Resolution adopted by the House of Commons on the 11th July 1877, without a divi-ion—"that in the opinion of this House, the duties now levied upon cotton manufactures imported into India, being protective in their nature, are contrary to sound commercial policy, and ought to be repealed without delay so soon as the financial condition of India will admit."

We have given *in extenso* the reasons assigned by Government lest we be charged with "insinuating a calumny." But could anything be more contradictory than these reasons? The Government admits that the financial position of India is serious and embarrassing, and we submit that at such a time as this it ought to gather up every pice it can to extinguish the deficit. But far from doing so the Government has surrendered to Lancashire greed a not insignificant revenue of £200,000. And why, because Lancashire is powerful and can obstruct the ministry if it chooses to do so, and it is, therefore, we surmise, deemed expedient to purchase her good will with this bribe at the expense of India India is weak; she has no voice in Parliament; she cannot help the Ministry with votes at the coming elections; she cannot badger the Indian minister with questions in the House of Commons, and why should the minstry or its Indian representative care for her? Lord Lytton told the Deputation of the British Indian Association that he will decide the question with exclusive reference to the interests of India, and how aptly is this declaration of his Lordship illustrated! India cannot pay her way; she has contracted £16,000,000 debt in the last four years; she has within the last two years been burdened with increased taxation by about 2½ millions; her famine fund has been absorbed in ordinary expenditure, and she is obliged to borrow five millions this year. All these facts are thrown aside and a sop of £200,000 is given to the Cerberus of Lancashire in order to help the ministry to go over the Parliamentary hedge at the next elections unmolested. This is the plain meaning of the cotton move of Lord Lytton. However strongly and indignantly His Lordship may protest against the charge, the public mind we cannot help saying cannot shake off its conviction.

There is one incident in connection with the controversy about the cotton duties, which ought to be kept before the public. It is this—in Parliament the ministry commands a majority and no opposition offered to Government has any effect; in the India House the Secretary of State has the power to overrule his Council, and in India the Viceroy and Governor General has the same power over his Council. It is well known that several members of the Indian Council did not support Lord Salisbury's cotton despatch of 1875, but their protest as usual was barren of any practical result. It is generally believed that the members of the Governor General's Council have not been unanimous regarding the remission of the cotton duty. Four out of six members, it is rumoured, were opposed to it, but the Viceroy has exercised the prerogative of his office and overruled the dissenting majority. Such is the way this cotton question is being carried through both in England and India. What a moral do these facts teach!

We are repeatedly reminded that India is governed for her own benefit that in all matters affecting her welfare she has the first claim to the consideration of Her Majesty's Ministers, and that though England and India may be considered joint partners in this particular question, still the interests of the former should be subordinated to those of the latter. But the practical progress of the cotton question shows how hollow-hearted are these professions and protestations. All past pledges, all solemn assurances, all public utterances in England and in India on this momentous question have been scattered to the winds by the overhelming influence of Manchester agitators. Will not India stir, will she not even cry, while her hard-earned revenues are being thus despoiled? If there be any spirit left in her children, natural-born as well as adopted, let them now combine with all the strength which law and constitutional means can lend them, and send a joint appeal to Parliament. NOW OR NEVER!

LORD LYTTON'S NEW POLITICAL MANIFESTO.

IT may be interesting to compare the new political manifesto of Lord Lytton as embodied in his reply to the address of the British Indian Association regarding the cotton duties with his first political utterances on his assumption of his exalted office. In that reply his Lordship taunted the British Indian Association as a body, which "to a great extent represented the zemindars of Bengal." It is quite true that the bulk of the members of the Association are vast landed proprietors, but they do not represent the landed interest exclusively. There are merchants, lawyers, manufacturers, and other capitalists represented in that body, and a survey of its operations for the last quarter of a century will shew that there is not a question affecting the social, material, moral and political condition of the people of this country, which does not find a place in its deliberations and representations to Government. It is not necessary for us to give a catalogue of the questions, which have engaged the attention of the Association from time to time, and the Government has not only always paid the greatest attention to its representations on all manner of subjects, but has also repeatedly invited its opinion on questions quite unconnected with the land. Does the British Indian Association forfeit its claim to be heard on questions unconnected with the land, because the majority of its members are landholders? On the contrary they deserve the thanks of the community that though directly interested in land they take a lively interest in the general well-being of the nation. In fact, being men of wealth, position, intelligence and leisure they are peculiarly fitted to lead the political aspirations of the nation, and by their intelligent, devoted and patriotic labours extending over more than a quarter of a century they have, though a self-constituted body, practically become the second estate in the empire, the first being the Government, and supplied the place of a legalized representative assembly. Of this Lord Lytton was well aware; in his reply to the welcome address of the Association in 1876 his Lordship said, "it is gratifying to me to receive my first address of welcome to Calcutta from an Association of influential Native gentlemen, whose enlightened activity in support of the interests they represent, and in the cause of social science, is already honorably known to me." Again: "Nothing, however, can better promote those effects for the continued security and increasing prosperity of the Empire which will certainly be made by myself and my honorable Colleagues than the hearty support of unofficial but influential bodies such as the Association which you so worthily represent. We shall at all times be willing to consider your views and suggestions on those subjects to which your attention has been given, knowing, as we do that the true interests of the people and its government are identical." Such was the encouraging language of the Viceroy on his ascension to the throne. For the past three years he has been consistent in receiving and also inviting expression of opinion from the Association on many important questions. He has marked his appreciation of the labours of the Association by honoring its distinguished Honorary Secretary, the Maharaja Joteendra Mohun Tagore, with a seat in his Legislative Council and by re-electing him on the expiration of his term—an honor for the first time conferred upon a native member of the Council. But in reply to the address of the Association regarding the cotton duties the Viceroy in effect told the deputation that being landholders they had nothing to do with the cotton duties, and that being the most favoured class in British India, they ought not to complain of the burden of taxation.

The same but oh! how changed!

Is Lord Lytton of 1879 the same of 1876? Was it the same voice that in 1876 courted in glowing periods the "hearty support of un-official but influential bodies such as the Association, which you, (addressing the members) so worthily represent," and promised "at all times to consider their views and suggestions on subjects to which their attention is given," in 1879 hurled insult, displeasure and defiance at them, because they had ventured to express opinions on the cotton question, which were not in accord with his own? Lord Lytton to all intents and purposes told the Deputation—"you are a body of Bengal landholders, who hold under special dispensation of the British Government property to which you have no right, you ought to feel thankful for what you have got, you are lightly taxed and have

therefore no right to complain, you have derived such signal benefits from Government that it is sheer ingratitude on your part to question the wisdom of any measure which it may think fit to adopt." We will not go into the history of zemindari property in Bengal. It is enough for us to say that the authors of the Permanent Settlement, Lord Cornwallis, and Sir John Shore afterwards Lord Teignmouth, had acknowledged the proprietary rights of the zemindars. But by far the great majority of the zemindars of the present day are not the descendants of the great Barons of Bengal with whom the Permanent Settlement was made. The first fruit of that Settlement was the annihilation of those personages. The majority of those, who now hold the land, have purchased it in the open market at fair price; the averment that the zemindars have been favoured by the State is necessarily reduced to this, that in the first place the original proprietors have been sold out and swept away, and in the second place that the present holders have paid a fair consideration for their property. As for the zemindars being lightly taxed, we have shewn over and over that they pay far more than other classes of the community; we will not repeat what we have so often written on the subject; it is enough for us to quote the opinion of the present Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, who is by no means partial to the landholders in matters of taxation. In commenting on the new License tax in the Vice-regal Council last year His Honor said that the landholders had already been sufficiently taxed and that it was but fair that the commercial classes should be called on to take their share of the burden. In moving on the cotton question the Association did not, however, seek for the relief of the zemindars or the richer classes. On the contrary they said that the import duty was chiefly paid by the richer classes, and ought not therefore to be repealed. The memorial says:

> The burden upon the mass of the population is in reality insignificant, inasmuch as the duty on coarse goods has been already abolished, and the climate dispenses for the poorer classes with the necessity of profuse clothing. It is the richer classes only, who largely consume cotton goods, especially of the finer qualities, which are now practically subject to taxation but with regard to which the duty offers no protection in consequence of absence of competition in this country; but even upon the richer classes the burden is not heavy, nor would it be just or sound in policy to do away with a fruitful source of revenue for the relief of those who are well able to bear it.

And yet the members of the Association were charged with selfishness! So much for the argument that the Association was a body of Bengal zemindars, that these favoured zemindars enjoy property, which rightfully belongs to the State, that they are very lightly taxed, and that they have been urged by gross selfishness in advocating the retention of the cotton duties.

After damning the Association as a body of self-seeking zemindars Lord Lytton said, "I am constrained to tell you, Gentlemen, that in your present address there are many statements which I do not admit; and that there is much in the tone of it which I cannot approve." We have in vain sought for the substantiation of the charge as to the tone of the memorial. We may mention that not one European or native gentleman with whom we have talked on the subject—and we have talked with European gentlemen of all classes—has been able to find out one passage, which is open to the charge so pompously preferred by the Viceroy. The only passage which has been cited in support of the accusation is the last paragraph of the memorial, which we transcribe below:

> As this question has been recently referred to your Excellency by her Majesty's Government for consideration, and as some action may probably be taken in respect of its connection with the Budget of the ensuing financial year, we crave leave to lay before your Excellency the views, sentiments, and feelings of the tax-payers of India on this subject. We solicit that this humble address may be taken into your Excellency's gracious consideration in deliberating on the subject, and that in communicating with her Majesty's Government, your Excellency may be pleased to direct attention to it. We conceive that it is the duty of the loyal subjects of her Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress to acquaint her representative in this country submissively, respectfully, but frankly, with their humble opinions, sentiments, and feelings regarding all measures connected with their advancement and welfare, and from this sincere conviction we have ventured to approach your Excellency with this address in the hope and belief that your Excellency will not seal with your sanction any measure on the subject under discussion, which your Excellency may not be satisfied is perfectly consistent with justice, sound policy, and the true interests of India.

The *Englishman*, which has detected some horrible meaning in this paragraph, seems to think that the words "hope and belief" convey "a thinly veiled insinuation" that, "should Lord Lytton determine to abolish the import duties on cotton goods, he will be acting against his conviction of what is for the true interests of India." The writer says that, "such a belief regarding the motives of the Ministry, if not of Lord Lytton himself, is not only widely prevalent, but has been freely and publicly expressed, is a matter of notoriety. There is, however, a wide difference between the license of public discussion and criticism, and the etiquette applicable to an address to the representative of the sovereign; and this difference the Association seems to have forgotten." We are really surprised that an intelligent English writer like our contemporary should have so sadly misapprehended the meaning of the innocent words used in the paragragh under notice. On this point he has been so well and pertinently answered by our contemporary of the *Statesman* that we need not add any words of our own. We, however, make bold to say that in this matter the *Englishman* does not represent the sense of the English community in Calcutta. So far as we have been able to guage English feeling in the matter, it is one of intense indignation against the attitude, tone and language of the Viceroy towards the deputation of the British Indian Association. The English public, if we may judge from our own information, are at a loss to find that a nobleman of Lord Lytton's position and character could so far forget himself as to employ such unbecoming language towards a respectable and eminent body like the British Indian Association, because they happened to give expression to opinions, which were not agreeable to himself. They regret this the more because it will lower the office of the Viceroy in the estimation of the Indian community. Indeed, the British Indian Association have risen in public estimation in proportion the Viceroy has lowered himself by the unprovoked, intemperate and undignified assault His Excellency in a moment of self-forgetfulness committed upon the Association. We are persuaded that if the Viceroy had used such language towards a European public body, the howl from one end of the country to the other would have been something tremendous, and might have led to an agitation, which even the Beaconsfield ministry, proud of its power, would not have perhaps contemned.

Then the Viceroy remarked, "you have attributed to the Government of India views which it has publicly repudiated; you have imputed to the Parliament of England, and the Ministers of the Crown, satisfied acquiescence in a state of things which they have distinctly condemned; and you have ignored the duty, at all times incumbent on Her Majesty's Indian Administration, to act in honest accordance with the principles laid down for the guidance of its action by the authority from which its own is derived." Now, what have the Association said? They quoted the opinions of the Indian Government and the Home Government chapter and verse. These opinions were thus summarized by Lord Lytton's Government in their Budget Resolution of last year:

> The principles on which the Customs legislation of the United Kingdom has been based are now admitted axioms by all who recognise the theoretic advantages of free trade. They must be regarded as a part of the national policy which Great Britain has finally adopted, and which the Secretary of State for India, with the deliberate approval of the House of Commons, has required the Government of India in this country to carry out.
>
> These principles are, as regards imports;—
>
> (1) that no duty should exist which affords protection to native industry, and, as a corollary, that no duty should be applied to any article which can be produced at home without an equivalent duty of excise on the home production, also that no duty should be levied except for purely fiscal purposes.
>
> (2) that, as far as possible, the raw materials of industry and articles contributing to production should be exempt from customs taxation;
>
> (3) that duties should be applied only to articles which yield a revenue of sufficient importance to justify the interference with trade involved by the machinery of collection.

In the face of the above can the Association be justly charged with misrepresenting the Government of India, the Imperial Parliament or the Ministers of the Crown? As for the Resolution of the House of Commons, which his Lordship quoted, it distinctly affirmed that the duties shall be repealed "as soon as the financial condition of India will admit," and the gist of the memorial was to urge in emphatic but respectful terms that the condition of the finances was not such as to admit of the repeal of the cotton duties. Lord Lytton said, "I desire to take this opportunity of once more declaring, without ambiguity, my settled determination to give to this sound decision the earliest and the widest practical effect in my power." It may be his Lordship's "settled determination now," but that was not his opinion when his Lordship first took charge of the Government of India. In his reply to the address of the Trades' Association in 1876 his Lordship had said:

> You have fairly observed that the import duties on cotton manufactures represent a large proportion of our whole customs revenue; and starting as we do this year, with a surplus unavoidably reduced to the very narrowest limits; pursued, in spite of all our precautions by an expenditure of which the natural tendency is to increase; and confronted by the still unconjecturable consequences of depreciated currency I think that no one responsible for the financial administration of this Empire would at present venture to make the smallest reduction in any of its limited sources of income.

But even if it be His Lordship's "settled determination" now—of course it has no reference to the hankering of the Ministry for Lancashire votes—to repeal the cotton duties, he is bound according to the Resolution of Parliament to shew that the "finances of India admit" of the repeal. The British Indian Association strongly urged that the financial position of India would not admit of the repeal of the duties, but the Viceroy did not choose to take notice of this most important point. On the contrary His Excellency accused them of gross selfishness for advocating indirect in lieu of direct taxation. His Excellency said, "as the responsible guardian of the general interests of the people of India, I notice with disappointment and surprise that you, who represent to some extent the wealthiest class in India, whilst deprecating forms of taxation such as the Bengal Land Cesses, which fall mainly on your own class, have not shrunk from advocating, and urging on my adoption, other forms of taxation, which fall almost exclusively on the great body of the poor." His Excellency may say so, but his two illustrious predecessors, Lords Mayo and Northbrook, and some of the most experienced Finance Ministers of India were of different opinion, and they had repeatedly warned the Government against the increase of direct taxation. If by raising their voice against direct taxation, they have been guilty of selfishness, they have the satisfaction to know that they are in good company.

Further, the Viceroy took the British Indian Association to task for saying that by repealing the duty on coarse goods last year the Government had practically removed the only objectionable feature in the cotton tariff. His Excellency said that this was "a serious misconception," that there were other kinds of cotton goods, on which the duty had the effect of a protective impost, and it was therefore wrong to assume that the duty had ceased to be protective. On this point opinion differs, but the question is not whether the duty on certain classes of goods were protective or not but whether as a fiscal resource it could be safely and justly done away with. There was not one word in the reply to imply that it could be, and yet the Deputation was bespattered with abuse for arguing that it could not be. With regard to the famine taxation of last year the Viceroy says that the Association had "calumniated" the Government of India. We give His Excellency's words:

It is, to me at least, a matter for much surprise and regret, to find that, in commenting with disapproval on the action taken by the Government of India in what you justly term a "time of national tribulation," you have entirely failed to recognise the fact that the sole purpose of the additional taxation, you complain of was the preservation of the lives of the people of India from the effects of famine. Whether the particular measures adopted for that purpose were, or were not, judiciously devised is a question fairly open to unprejudiced discussion But the motive and purpose of those measures are certainly not open to doubt. Whatever may be the faults or shortcomings of this Government, its action in the matter, to which your address makes reference, was dictated by the sincerest and most anxious desire to give to the people of India the greatest protection which could practically be provided for them against the calamities of future famines. To insinuate the country is to insinuate a calumny.

Now, what were the words of the Deputation? We give them below:

The present financial position of India is, indeed, critical. A terrible and wide-spread famine ravaged Southern India, for nearly two years; millions of persons have died from starvation and disease, notwithstanding the most benevolent exertions of Government; a dire scarcity overtook last year large tracts in Northern India, where also thousands of distressed population succumbed to disease and death; in other parts of the country considerable distress prevails owing to enormous rise in the price of provisions, and yet at this time of national tribulation, the Government has considered its duty to impose additional taxation to the extent of about a million and a half. Within the last three years the increase of taxation, imperial and provincial, with the Bengal Road Cess we believe has come to about three millions per annum.

We appeal to all unprejudiced Englishmen to say whether any unworthy motives were imputed to Government in the above paragraph. The Association started with the affirmation that the financial position of India is "critical" and as a corroborative proof they adduced famine taxation, which was imposed by the Government notwithstanding the fact that the people had just emerged from the horrors of a desolating famine. This measure could only be justified by extreme necessity, and when such was the case was this the time to think of the repeal of the cotton duties, which yielded four-fifths of a million without pressing upon any body or causing any oppression? But strange to say that such a master of words as his Lordship reads in this plain unvarnished statement a "calumny" of the Government of India. *Oh! tempora! oh! mores!* As regards the increase of taxation within the last three years we disposed of this question in our last. The arithmetic of His Excellency is in fault, but perhaps His Excellency is not responsible for it. Then the Viceroy fired up about the Salt Duty, and quoted Lords Lawrence, Mayo, and Northbrook in support of it. Pity it was that while His Excellency quoted his predecessors on the salt duty he did not remember what they had said about the cotton duties. Of course it suited His Lordship to quote them where their opinions were in accord with his own. But as regards the salt duty say what the Government of India might, any one who would go into the subject free from sentimentality could not fail to see that it was a tax, which was highly popular, and which was best suited to the circumstances of the country. And lastly his Lordship gave expression to virtuous indignation at the very thought that the people of India should object to the payment of the cost of the Affghan war out of the Indian revenue. Now, the British Indian Association had not discussed the question at all. They had simply stated as a fact that under a recent resolution of Parliament the Indian revenue had been burdened with the cost of the Affghan war. But the Viceroy makes this innocent statement a peg to hang thereon a tirade against the Association. One is tempted to ask why this sound and fury for nothing. The Association had not in the memorial before the Viceroy expressed any opinion on the subject, and was it in accordance with official etiquette to anathemize a public body for an offence which in the document before His Excellency was non-existent?

We have endeavoured to notice *seriatim* the points raised in the reply of the Viceroy. We hope we have shewn satisfactorily how unfounded were the charges of the Viceroy against the Association and how unworthy and undignified was his manner in putting them. We will point the moral in another article.

THE PRESS ON LORD LYTTON'S NEW MANIFESTO.

WE are not surprised that the Press with one or two exceptions severely condemns the tone, manner and character of Lord Lytton's reply to the Deputation of the British Indian Association. The *Englishman* is the only paper, which finds fault with the tone of the address of the Association. But with the exception of a solitary passage, which, however, does not in the remotest degree bear out the construction put upon it, the writer has not given a single more illustration in support of his charge. We have in another article disposed of the solitary passage alluded to, and we challenge him to produce a single passage, which can be construed into a breach of official etiquette or conventional decorum But even the *Englishman* has since relented. Our contemporary in his simplicity thinks that Lord Lytton's reply was simply meant as a rebuke to the British Indian Association for the tone and not for the contents of their address. For, says he—

Our approval of the course adopted by his Excellency in administering what we regard as a timely reproof would have been turned into unqualified condemnation, had we felt that intolerance of criticism had anything to do with it or that it was intended as a protest against any attempt to challenge the Government policy. The notion that because a certain policy has been decided on by the Home Government and accepted by the Viceroy, it either is placed beyond the pale of criticism, or ceases to be a proper subject of remonstrance on the part of those affected by it is one which we could not countenance for a moment.

Our contemporary confesses that he does not believe that Lord Lytton's reply was intended to put down free discussion, and yet he says "we must admit that the reply contains expressions which might seem to contenance such an interpretation." The writer then goes on:

There is one passage which is notably open to objection on this ground. We refer to the passage in which Lord Lytton after remarking that he does not feel called upon to discuss with the Association the principles or details of the Government policy in the matter of the cotton duties, goes on to say; "On this point, even were my convictions less strong than they are, I should still deem it my duty, as the present guardian of India's highest political interests, to endeavour to close as soon as possible a perfectly fruitless and increasingly irritating controversy."

That a controversy which is fruitless and irritating is politically objectionable, we admit; but we deprecate the assumption that any controversy regarding a point of public policy is necessarily fruitless, as long as there exists a possibility of that policy being either rejected or reversed.

Lord Lytton may have good ground for believing that the abolition of the import duties on cotton goods is a foregone conclusion. But to state this baldly, still more to pronounce controversy fruitless on this ground, is to our thinking, not only opposed to good policy, but, as applied to the Government of an enlightened, not to say a free, country, illogical and absurd. The most bigoted of statesmen may change their opinions, or at all events it sounds unpleasantly like an assumption of infallibility for them to say that they may not. Nor is the case materially altered by the fact of a policy having become law, for the laws of civilised nations are not, as the laws of the Medes and Persians, unalterable. We deny, therefore, that it is reasonable to condemn controversy as fruitless, because certain statesmen, who happen to be in power, have for the time being made up their minds about the policy to be adopted; and we affirm that it would be as mischievous as unreasonable if temperate and legitimate controversy were prohibited, or tabooed, or even discouraged on such grounds.

Then, again, while we think that irritating controversy is undesirable, even though it may not be fruitless, we should deprecate most strongly the notion that the mere fact of Government having made up its minds is sufficient to constitute temperate controversy a ground of irritation. A man who cannot with temper bear to hear his policy, or the policy of his superiors, however firmly founded in right, and however irrevocable, be may deem it to be, questioned, even in addresses to himself, without irritation, it not fit to be a ruler of men. We trust that Lord Lytton did not mean to give expression to any such feeling as this when he spoke of the controversy about these duties as increasingly irritating. We trust that he referred to the tone adopted by his opponents, rather than to the fact that they were opposing what he believed to be right, or inevitable. If, however, we are mistaken in this trust in Lord Lytton's good sense and enlightenment; if he intended to declare *sic volo, sic jubeo* to be principle on which he meant to govern, and angry resentment of adverse opinion the temper in which he meant to apply that principle, then the tunic of Nessus would be a more comfortable garment than that with which his evil genius is tempting him.

What could be a greater condemnation than the above reply of the Viceroy's new political manifesto? Our contemporary would have saved his own character, if he had at first exercised his own unbiassed judgment instead of seeing through the spectacles of others. The *Statesman* has now the credit by the use of his own caustic language of conducting the Hare Street journal to the right path in estimating the real character of the imperial farce enacted by Lord Lytton at Government House the other day.

We have perused the articles of the *Statesman* on the subject with the greatest pleasure. They are just, pertinent, outspoken and smart. In his first article our contemporary points out that though the British Indian Association was composed chiefly of landowners it did not forfeit the right of addressing the Government on general questions. The writer says: "When it is considered that the people of this country, even the "influential" zemindars of Bengal, have no political power, and only the *privilege* of inditing memorials, it does not appear that the head of the Government has any excuse for being so super-sensitive when they exercise their sole political privilege of freedom of speech." Quite so. Even the meanest subject of the Queen has the right of petitioning Her Majesty on any question he likes. We cannot believe that Lord Lytton wishes to take away from the people of this country the right of petitioning, and yet his reply to the British Indian Association cannot but have a most discouraging effect upon the Indian subjects of Her Majesty. It comes to this that they are even not to be allowed to open their mouths in respectful remonstrance against the views and measures of Government. The *Statesman* in its second article writes:

We must repeat our opinion that the scolding lecture which his Excellency the Viceroy delivered on Saturday to the representatives of the British Indian Association was lamentably wanting in good taste and sobriety of judgment. We say nothing about the lack of dignity that characterised it; in that respect we are not prepared to say that Lord Lytton was greatly wanting to himself. But we do regret the loss of temper, the feminine petulance displayed; still more the uncharitable spirit in which he interpreted the words of the memorial, and the palpable injustice of the rebuke he administered. And although his Excellency began by declaring that no one was more anxious than he to encourage, among the natives of India, disinterested criticism of the proceedings of Government, and spontaneous expressions of opinion, a reception such as he gave to the deputation which waited on him on Saturday is certainly calculated to have a very opposite effect. After this, it will require some courage on the part of any deputation of native gentlemen to address the present Viceroy on any public question unless they are prepared to adopt that tone of insincere sycophancy, which every Englishman should rejoice to see the representatives of the Bengalee community throwing aside. Had Lord Lytton's reply been a purely extempore one, delivered under the influence of a momentary irritation at the disapproval of his policy expressed in the memorial, its exasperation would have been intelligible and perhaps excusable, and we could have assumed that when his equanimity returned, he would himself regret his display of temper. But the memorial had been studied, and the reply was deliberately prepared, and printed, and copies supplied to the Press. It is, therefore, impossible to indulge in any delusion on the subject. Lord Lytton is not ashamed of his Saturday's speech, and we are sorry for it.

It must be highly gratifying to his Excellency to find that if there are natives of India who are ceasing to be obsequious there are Englishmen whose foreheads are at his feet and whose box of ointment is ever ready to be broken to modify the wounds in his sensitive nature. We even observe that a contemporary has signified strong approval of the Viceroy's impolitic speech. It surprises us to find this difference of judgment between the *Englishman* and ourselves: and yet if an English Viceroy could deliberately arrive at the conclusion that it was his duty to deliver such a speech, perhaps we should not be surprised that an Englishman is found to agree in opinion with his Excellency.

Again:

"It should not be forgotten, as we remarked the other day, that the natives of India, however highly distinguished by intelligence and public spirit, whatever their social position, whatever their importance in the State, are deprived by the constitution of the Indian Government, of all opportunity of effective public discussion and criticism. It is because they are politically unenfranchised, have no representative assembly, have no constitutional means of bringing their knowledge, opinions, and wishes to bear effectively on the course of Government, that they are obliged to approach "the representative of the sovereign" with their memorials of grievances, and to give expression to their remonstrances and aspirations in the character of suppliants. They are denied political *power*; but hitherto they have been encouraged to make free use of the *privilege* of memorialising. This privilege, it appears is now to be curtailed. Under the despotism now being introduced by Lord Lytton, their memorials must be carefully divested of every semblance of remonstrance against the policy of the Government. That is really the lesson conveyed to them in Lord Lytton's speech, and enforced by our contemporary. They are to remember that any thing in the shape of remonstrance or argument against the declared policy of Government, is only permissible in "public discussion and criticism," which to them is denied. And when they venture to approach the august presence of her Majesty's representative, they must abstain from every expression of opinion which might be disagreeable to his sensitive nature. They are not merely to address him in courteous words; they must neither criticise his policy nor hint that his judgment may be mistaken. They must not even express their belief in his integrity and sense of duty, lest such an expression should seem to imply that these qualities in a "sovereign's representatives" might possibly be called in question."

The *Indian Daily News*, though not friendly to the British Indian Association, is candid enough to say:

We may permit ourselves to regret that the rebuke which His Excellency considered to be merited by the association was not framed in more dignified language, that it was disfigured by indecent acrimony and petulant anger, entirely unbecoming the exalted position of the speaker, and unwarranted by the particular occasion seized by him to discharge his accumulated anger on the heads of the Bengalee zemindars. We may permit ourselves to regret still more the error into which His Excellency was led, in adopting a language and demeanour to this body calculated more than anything else to give prestige to its members in the eyes of their countrymen

and to enable them to pose as suffering patriots. We are not concerned to sympathise very deeply with the association ourselves—not much more concerned than we are to sympathise with the Manchester Chamber of Commerce. Both bodies seek their own objects, and seek them with an air of universal benevolence and devotion to the highest interest of the brotherhood of man, which carries conviction only to the mind of the fanatical, or the ignorant. Our sympathy indeed is with Lord Lytton, who has been induced on the one hand to lend all his support to the Manchester school; and on the other, to give to the British Indian Association an important claim to popularity with the natives of this province. In both cases, he has committed a serious error, perhaps the greatest public error he has committed since he took charge of the administration of this Empire, and we shall expect to find that the mistake will be speedily recognised by His Excellency himself, if indeed he has not already discovered that his support of the claims of Manchester was a complete error. It is probable enough, in fact, that the undisguised irritation of this reply to the address presented by the association, was caused by his own recognition that he had taken a wrong course from which he was unable, or unwilling to recede. Nothing is more likely to cause irritation in a man than the criticism of candid friends on a course of action which he knows to be wrong, but from which he feels that there is no retreat. Unable to argue calmly in defence of his position, he storms and blusters until he attains his object of silencing criticism,—at least of silencing it to his face.

The *Pioneer*, as might be expected, heartily supports the reply of Lord Lytton to the British Indian Association. "It is," says the Allahabad paper, "a splendid rebuke to a selfish grumble," but in reading between the lines we find that even the *Pi* sees through the hollowness of the Viceroy's arguments. It does not echo the cry for the repeal of the cotton duties, nor does it advocate the multiplication of direct taxes. Strange to say that while on Tuesday the *Pioneer* emphatically condemned the British Indian Association, on the following day it warmly applauds the memorial. We give the paragraph:

> The address by the British Indian Association, which evoked Lord Lytton's speech, will be found in another column. Though the fact that it emanated from a body largely composed of Bengal landowners, gave the Viceroy an opportunity of replying with a rebuke, its argument as to the cotton duties is simply unanswerable. And the whole theory of the address, as regards direct and indirect taxation in India, is scarcely less irresistible. The voice is clearly the voice of some very capable student of Indian finance, though the hands are the hands of the British Indian Association.

We may tell our contemporary without breach of confidence that the voice which breathed through the memorial was the voice of the Association and of nobody else, that the hands which wrote it were black hands, and that if it was the production of "some very capable student of Indian finance," the student or rather students flourish in No. 18 British Indian Street and nowhere else. If, as our contemporary admits, the argument of the Association as to the cotton duties "is simply unanswerable," and that the whole theory as regard direct and indirect taxation in India "is scarcely less irresistible," with what consistency we ask does he give his "hearty approval" to the so-called "splendid rebuke" of the Viceroy to the so-called "selfish grumble" of the Association. We confess we cannot dive into the mysteries of the politics of the *Pioneer*, but it is significant that though as in duty bound it applauds the Viceroy it also warmly and justly appreciates the memorial of the British Indian Association.

The *Delhi Gazette* makes the following remarks:

> The Viceroy has been amusing himself by giving the Bengal Zemindars a scolding. His letter of Saturday last to the British Indian Association, which will be found elsewhere in our columns, is a sample of what His Lordship can do in the way of objurgation. Unfortunately its tone rather resembles that of an angry female than the fatherly advice with which his predecessors were in the habit of regaling the members of the Upper Ten of the native community.—His Lordship has made a mistake, and if he does not put an end to the discussion, he will find it take a turn anything but pleasant. The Viceroy says:—"So far as I understand your address, its chief object is to protest against any further measures for the removal of the Indian Import Duties on cotton goods." Now it so happens that on this point the Members of the Association are at one with a very large proportion of the European community of India. They have every right to protest against the removal of those duties, because opinions in *India* are divided on the subject, and the finances are in such a condition that the loss of a farthing of direct revenue is to be deprecated. The cotton spinners of Lancashire are in a different position. *They* are practically despots, for they can make and unmake members of the House of Commons which is "an authority" to quote Lord Lytton's words "from whose judgment in such matters there is virtually no appeal." This is plain speaking at any rate, and if Lord Lytton had only confined himself to announcing this truism instead of entering into an argument covering eight pages, he would have done well. The Duty is to be removed, no matter what the British Indian Association or any body else in India may say or do, and there is no use wasting breadth in arguing over the inevitable pill that has to be swallowed one way or another."

The *Times of India* has an excellent leader on the subject, from which we make the following extract:

> The tone of the speech and the complete absence of argument or statement calculated to convince either the deputation or the public of India that the action of the Government in regard to those important questions, was based upon a consideration of the interests of this country, irrespective of those of cliques and parties at Home, will create a very painful feeling of disappointment both here and in England. The speech taken as a whole, and regarded in its spirit rather than in the particular assertions and declarations in which that spirit finds expression, is one of ill omen for India. The question now at issue is in our view nothing less than this—Whether the finances of India are to be administered with honest reference to requirements of the Indian treasury and the interests and convenience of the Indian tax-payers, or are henceforth to be manipulated to satisfy the clamours of a knot of agitators in Lancashire, who have means of influencing the result of party struggles in England which are denied to the two hundred millions of Her Majesty's subjects in this country. It may appear ungracious to say so, but a perusal of speech leaves an uncomfortable impression on the mind that it was made for electioneering effect in certain parts of England, rather than with any view to enlighten or convince public opinion in India.
>
> It is difficult to avoid a suspicion that the real offence of the deputation was the objection they so strongly urged to the sacrifice of the import duties on cotton, at the very time that new taxes are being imposed on the people who are still labouring under the effects of successive famines.
>
> Well, the Government of India has taken the duty off the coarse cotton altogether; they pass through the Custom House as free as air; not a single anna is levied upon them. The cry of "protection" is therefore no longer heard in the forefront of the agitation in Lancashire. Without dropping it altogether—it is too clap-trap to be discarded wholly—the agitators have supplemented it by passionate demands to consider the interests of the poor Indian consumer, who has to pay £800,000 more for his clothes than he would have to do if there were no duties to be paid on imported calicoes. Unfortunately for this representation of the case, the goods which now alone are subject to duty are those which the rich alone wear—fine calicoes, the equivalent of the purple and fine linen of the Oriental magnates of Scriptural times.
>
> The salt tax they regard with equanimity; heavy assessments, exacted with praiseworthy firmness by a necessitous Government from the starved survivors of a great famine, do not trouble them in the least. But the hardship of making the wealthy wearer of fine calicoes pay five percent., which he does not miss and never dreams of regarding as a grievance, strikes them as altogether monstrous. The pretence is now one of philanthropy; the allegation that the interests of Free Trade are involved in the matter has been dexterously kept a little in the background, so that it may not be subjected to ignominious condemnation as false and shameless. In this altered state of the controversy, the British Indian Association very fairly and very naturally urged upon Lord Lytton that to repeal the import duties on the plea that they are protective would be to ignore the fact that they are no longer in any sense protective. And they further pressed upon his attention that in view of the heavy increase of taxation of late years "the financial condition of India" does not admit of the sacrifice of £800,000 of revenue. Lord Lytton appears to have resented both statements almost as if they were personal outrages on himself. His warmth could not have been greater if his veracity or political honesty had been called in question. He declared that any one who read the address would believe that it was in accordance with the views of the House of Commons, the Secretary of State, and the Government of India, "which is notoriously not the case." He informed them that "he did not feel called upon to discuss with the members of their Association the principles or details of a policy deliberately adopted and repeatedly proclaimed." He snubbed them without mercy, and informed them that it was "his settled determination" to give to the decision arrived at, the earliest and widest practical effect in his power. But he did not say one word to show that "the financial condition of India" is such as to admit of the sacrifice of the cotton duties. The financial condition of India is the last thing that troubles the Government of India, if we are to judge by this pronouncement of Lord Lytton. Two desires fill the Viceroy's soul at the present moment and leave no room for grovelling thoughts as to the financial equilibrium. First comes a passionate longing to free Manchester fine goods from all customs duties, and next an ardent wish to save India from the degradation of having any part of the cost of the Afghan war contributed by England.
>
> Seeing that this war was not at all an Indian war, but was confessedly brought about by Russian diplomacy as a set-off for the Anglo-Turkish Convention and other notable achievements of the English Cabinet, we do not see that India would be necessarily humiliated if England bore a part of the cost, or indeed the whole. Compare with this burst of Lord Lytton's the declaration of Mr. Burt, M.P., the representative of the working men of England in the House of Commons, "that the depth of political measures had been reached when England, having got herself into this war, made the poor famine-stricken, dumb, patient inhabitants of India pay for it!" There is more reality and truth in that view of the case than in the rhetorical flourish of the viceroy. India is being badly treated in this business, and fine phrases will not make the world think otherwise. The Afghan war is essentially an English war—a war resulting from the prolonged antagonism between England and Russia which brought the British fleet to the Bosphorus and the Russian embassy to Cabul. To make India pay the whole cost of that war is a piece of unexampled political meanness.

We need not give extracts from the native papers on the subject, but the consensus of opinion among them irrespective of class differences is remarkable. There is but one feeling among the Native community on the subject, which is one of intense indignation against the Viceroy's wanton insult to the honored representatives of the community, and this fact, we hope, will have due weight in proper quarters.

IMPROVEMENT WITH A VENGEANCE.

THE Government doubtless acts from the best of intentions in proposing and carrying out schemes of improvement. The reader might remember that Sir William Grey projected the scheme of Dankuni reclamation in the district of Hooghly. Sir William was a cautious governor, and undertook the measure as a tentative one only. The original project was a general law for the reclamation of marshy lands. The object was to combine sanitary with agricultural improvement. Raja Degumber Mitter, who was then in the Bengal Council, lifted his warning voice against this sweeping measure, which he said would do no good but positive harm. Sir William Grey accordingly abandoned the general project, and confined it only to the reclamation of the Dankuni *beel*. We have lately seen the reports of Government officers describing in glowing colours the wonderful improvement which according to them has been effected. This is, however, only one side of the shield; let us look to the other side. Some inhabitants of Hooghly, whose lands have been affected by the works, have submitted the following petition to the Lieutenant Governor:

"That your petitioners are the owners of habitable and cultivated lands affected by the Dankuni drainage scheme which has been executed.

2. That your petitioners some of whom are Zenana widows depend wholly upon the produce of these lands for means of their subsistence. The scheme which was set on foot from the most benevolent of motives has proved ruinous to your petitioners, who when it was first published had no knowledge of it either on the whole or in detail, as none of them were on the Commission nor was the notification published in their village as prescribed in Section X of Act V of 1871 (B.C.) They had therefore no opportunity of examining the scheme and knowing how if executed it would affect them.

3. That the native members of the Commission were all influential Zemindars who own large estates in the Dankuni Beel and its neighborhood and who for reasons which may be well conceived kept the project wholly to themselves and it now appears that they have been materially benefitted by the execution of the project. That your petitioners submit with this petition a Statement showing the areas of their respective holdings specifying in detail the areas occupied by dwellings and gardens and the areas cultivated, which have been measured for assessment. That from the figures given it will be observed that out of an aggregate of 12,413. 1. 14. Biggahs of cultivated lands comprised in the holdings of your petitioners only 248¼ Biggahs or one-fifth have been benefitted by the drainage Canal and the remaining 994-16-14 Biggahs have become unproductive and nearly useless. And this has been owing to the Canal being narrow and shallow and the two ends of the Canal which are provided with sluices or locks being silted up during the rains, which do not allow of their being opened when wanted. The result is when there is moderate rain and the locks remain open the lands are so drained that no moisture remains on the ground to serve the purpose of cultivation either for sowing new fields or protecting those which have been sown and when there is heavy rain, and consequently large accumulations of water the locks remain closed and the cultivated fields remain under water for days together, which destroys every blade of corn and grass as was remarkably the case during the last rains.

4. That though this has been the case your petitioners have been heavily assessed for the purpose of recovering from them their share of the cost of construction of the works. The works have entailed upon your petitioners double loss—one arising from the drainage and the destruction of the crops and the other by the loss of the profits they derived from the fisheries. That over and above this ground of complaint your petitioners have been assessed with cost for which they are not liable by reason of confusion being made by the Surveyor in determining the proprietary rights of the assessees, so that the owner of twenty Biggahs has been charged with the cost of 40 Biggahs by another property being mixed up with the survey in his report.

5. That from the year 1875 to the year 1878 they have been incurring heavy loss from the deterioration of the fields and the consequent deminished crops. In 1879, the crops have almost completely failed and they hope to realize but a fraction of the rents. If under the circumstances described above they have to meet the assessed cost amounting to nearly Rs. 23,000 they fear it will not be covered by the value of the lands themselves.

Your petitioners now humbly pray that an enquiry may be ordered into the truth of the statement

herein made and that until such enquiry is concluded and the result reported to Government the recovery of the cost from your petitioners may be held in abeyance.

Annexed to the above is a statement for which we cannot make room. It appears from this statement that thirty persons own about 1243 bigas of land, of which only 248 bigas have benefited by the works and 994 bigas have been injured by them. The total assessment upon them is fixed at Rs. 22,738, which we are told is more than the value of the lands themselves. The result will be that these unfortunate persons must not only sell their lands to meet the demand but find money from some other sources too. Is not this improvement with a vengeance? We would urge the Government to make a thorough enquiry into the matter.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

ON SATURDAY last the annual Convocation of the Calcutta University was held, Sir Alexander Arbuthnot, Vice-Chancellor, presiding. After the distribution of the degree certificates and medals Sir Alexander Arbuthnot delivered the Vice-Chancellor's address. He announced a rather heavy obituary and paid well merited tributes of praise to the memory of each of the lamented deceased. General Grant was present on the occasion, and he took the opportunity to pay a well-turned compliment to the illustrious soldier-statesman. The bust of the late Mr. Woodrow was unveiled on this occasion.

WE HEAR that Dr. Payne will succeed Dr. Irving as Inspector General of Hospitals in Bengal. A better selection could not be made. By training, temper and talents he is more fitted to rule than to be ruled, and as the head of the Bengal Medical Department he will be the right man in the right place. The Hospital Commission have lately dragged into light abuses, which a strong-minded man like Dr. Payne is eminently qualified to correct.

THREE superior appointments in the Calcutta Municipality have or will shortly become vacant, we mean the offices of Vice-Chairman, Health-Officer and Secretary. Babu Sreenath Ghose, the Vice-Chairman, we hear, proposes to retire in consequence of failing health, Dr. Payne will vacate the office of Health-Officer, and Mr. Wyman has withdrawn his candidature for the office of Secretary. We hope the Commissioners will fill up these high appointments with due regard to the interests of the Municipality, and not allow personal considerations to influence their judgment.

GENERAL Grant, the late citizen King of America, has been honored with a right loyal reception by our Government in the capital of the Empire. On his arrival he was received by a deputation of high officials, who conducted him to Government House, where he was the guest of the Viceroy, till His Excellency's departure for Lahore. On Monday last a State dinner was given in his honor and on Tuesday there was a water party to Barrackpore. On the evening of that day there was an assembly at Government House to which representatives of all sections of the community were invited to meet him. On Wednesday there was a dinner and an evening party at Belvedere, and on the following day, there was a garden party on the Belvedere grounds. Mr. Grant and party next became the guests of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor. On Friday the Hon'ble the Maharaja Joteendra Mohun Tagore gave him a splendid entertainment. At the State dinner at Government House Lord Lytton made a most graceful speech in proposing the health of Mr. Grant. We regret that for want of space we cannot give the speech *in extenso*, but we will content ourselves with the following extracts:

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I sincerely believe that there is no toast unconnected with our own country and its institution which is honoured with greater cordiality by Englishmen of all classes and in all parts of the world than the toast I am now about to propose to you. Because, Ladies and Gentlemen, we English cannot look and never do look upon America as a foreign country, or upon the American people as a foreign people (hear, hear). they are flesh of our flesh, and bone of our bone (hear, hear) It is true, no doubt, that our fathers, and their fathers, have had their family quarrels over which they have shaken hands— for quarrels will occasionally occur in the best regulated families— but these are quarrels which I trust that neither their children, nor our children, will ever have occasion to renew; for they have been practically settled by a separation of political partnership, prolific in substantial benefits to the best interests of mankind (applause). Meanwhile we Englishmen of the present day all regard our American kinsfolk as, if I may say so, the rising generation, and the most go-ahead representatives of that good old sturdy family stock, which, whilst lovingly, loyally, and I hope lastingly honouring, and keeping honoured, its ancestral roof- tree, still sends forth from its little island-home in the Northern Seas, the hardy offspring of a race that has planted, and is spreading in every quarter of the habitable globe, the language in which Shakespeare wrote, the liberty for which Washington so nobly laboured, the social principles of the Code of Blackstone, and the ethical principles of the creed of Christianity (applause).

Ladies and gentlemen, the toast I am going to propose to you is that of the President of the United States of America (hear, hear.) This is a toast to which, I am sure, you would in any circumstances, respond with cordiality. But I am confident that in the circumstances which have brought us together this evening, your cordiality will be quickened by the presence of an eminent guest who has twice filled with renown the high office we are about to honor in the person of its present incumbent (applause)

That office, Ladies and Gentlemen, I think, the highest that can possibly be held— the highest that ever has been filled by the citizen of a free country, and never has that high office been more worthily won or more worthily filled, than by the distinguished soldier to whose sword America is indebted for the re established union, and permanent peace, of those great Sovereign States over whose united destinies he has twice successfully presided (applause). It was said by the great Poet of our own commonwealth that "peace hath her victories no less renowned than war," and with the victories of peace, as well as those of war, I am persuaded that the name of General Grant will long be honorably associated by a double renown (applause.)

It is not etiquette for such an august personage as the ex-President of the American Republic to reply and so he did not respond to the toast.

THE ENTERTAINMENT given by the Hon'ble the Maharaja Jotendromohun Tagore in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Grant in his splendid villa on the Barrackpore road was a grand success. The spacious grounds were beautifully illuminated, the water below here and there lent not a little charm to the fairy scene. The assembly hall is a magnificent work of art, the attractions of which were greatly heightened by some masterpieces of painting with which it was adorned. The company was worthy of the occasion. Besides Mr. and Mrs. Grant and party, there were among others H. H. the Lieutenant Governor and Suite, Sir Richard and Lady Garth, the Hon'ble Rivers Thompson, the Hon'ble Mr. Hope, the Hon'ble Dr. Thornton, the Hon'ble Mr. Buckland, several foreign consuls, and many other European ladies and gentlemen of note in the city with a fair sprinkling of leading native gentlemen. The programme of the entertainment was well arranged and variety was its chief feature. There were instrumental and vocal music, *kathakatha*, performance on the *jultaranga*, *panchali*, the inimitable *nyastaranga*, the *rashdari dance*, the regular Hindusthani natch, *jattra*, *mourponkhi* or the boat-scene, *nagarkirtun*, and *tableaux vivants* of six principal Rags. The company seemed to have much enjoyed the entertainment. The great general we hope will cherish a kindly remembrance of the humble endeavours of the Indian subjects of our Queen-Empress to do honor to his Republic in his august person. Maharaja Joteendro Mohun Tagore and his accomplished brother are entitled to the thanks of the community for performing a national duty.

GENERAL GRANT we are glad to learn paid a visit to our esteemed townsman Mr. Manickjee Rustomjee on Friday last. He was very courteous and affables. He talked much about what he had seen in this country, and we are glad to learn that he is carrying very good impressions of the general effects of British rule in the East. He is much pleased with the progress which the natives of this country have made in their knowledge of the English language. The General has given up the idea of visiting Madras and Ceylon, and left for Burmah yesterday.

WE TAKE the following from *Native Opinion* of Bombay:

Mr. Grant, the Municipal Commissioner, has sustained another defeat at the hands of the Town Councillors, and this time perhaps, more deservedly than the last. He would have a first class contractor and a firstclass work or none at all. The acceptance of a tender less than that of Messrs Glover and Co. would be spoiling the drainage works and ruining Bombay. An officer who held such opinions only a few weeks ago recommended to the Town Council, last week for their acceptance the tender of Messrs. Bulkley and Co. a tender which was for a sum nearly equal to what the majority of the Town Councillors desired to accept. This inconsistency of the commissioner is thus remarked upon by the Chairman of the Town Council. He said that he felt himself "bound to notice that the Commissioner considered the tender of Messrs. Bulkley as fit only to be put into his waste paper basket, and that he now considered it to be the best the most acceptable of them all." The Commissioner protested against such ribaldry and irreverence, but for all this the public is unable to see how the acceptance of Messrs. Nagoo Sayaji's tender would have surrendered sewer gases in Bombay and that of Messrs. Bulkley's would produce nothing but health, strength and happiness. Mr. Nanabhoy Byramji Jijibhoy has very properly pointed out the inconsistency of the Commissioner in recommending Messrs. Bulkley's tender and protested against the overbearing conduct of the Municipal authorities. Mr. Nanabhoy remarked that the Commissioner "was showing them but scant courtesy as the representatives of the public."

The Municipal Commissioners of Bombay have done well by undertaking the drainage works departmen ally. The departmental execution of the Drainage Works in Calcutta has certainly been satisfactory.

JUST on the eve of the dissolution of the present session of the Vice-regal Legislative Council the members seem to have warmed up. We noticed some warmth of life at the previous sitting of the Council, and at the last sitting there were also some symptoms of it. The subject of discussion was the Railway Bill. Several objections were taken in the Council, which shewed how badly was the Select Committee constituted and how indifferently was the bill revised. Mr. Hope was on the point of carrying his motion to refer the bill back to the Select Committee to the chagrin of those members, who were panting for Simla, but after a little wordy war the fight ceased. One confession was made by Sir Alexandar Arbuthnot, which was not to the credit of the Council. Such an important measure as the Railway Bill in which the native community were deeply interested, had been referred to a Select Committee on which there was not a single native member. This is the way legislation is carried on in this country.

WE HEARTILY welcome the project of a native daily paper at Allahabad. It is to be called the *Indian Herald*. The projectors state:

The journal will be thoroughly independent in its tone, and while it will endeavour to act as a trustworthy medium for communicating the policy of the Government to the people and making known the wants of the people to the Government, it will be conducted on such principles as will admit of no distinction of class, creed or color. It will be a "Native" organ in the widest sense of the term, that is to say, it will freely advocate the interests of the Indian community, Christian, Hindu or Muhammadan; and this being so, it is hoped that important branch of the service, the "Unconvenanted" will find in it a worthy representative. Its columns will be thrown open for the free expression of public opinion, and no efforts will be spared to render it a true exponent.

The terms of subscription are very moderate, Rs. 30 with postage per annum. We wish the project every success.

WAR TELEGRAMS.

Trustworthy intelligence from Herat eighteen days old, through Candahar states that Ayub Khan had arrived at Khasan. News from Turkestan has reached Cabul of the encounter between the adherents of Yakoob Khan and those supporting Hassan Khan, son of Sharif Khan, and son-in-law of mother of late Abdoolla Jan. Eighty lives were lost. Ibrahim Khan and Ahmed Ali Jan are reported to be returning to Cabul.

Telegram dated Jellalabad twelfth states that Turkistan soldiery have plundered the property of General Faiz Mahomed Lugardy Shahgassi Kushdil and the son of Mastaufi. Mother of Abdulla Jan has written to Herat authorities. Sirdar Ibrahim Khan has reached Kabul and is under surveillance, though openly treated with honor. General Ghulam Haider Wardak has been sent by Yakub Khan to Turkistan.

The latest telegrams from Mandalay were dated the 10th March and received on the 11th. Up to the evening of the 10th no disquieting incidents were reported though the aspect of affairs was still uncertain and the anxiety caused by the recent acts and conduct of the court party had not subsided.

From Major Sandeman at Khushdil Fort near Quetta intelligence has been received that the arrangements for the march of the troops *via* Talchotiali route were complete before the 8th. The neighbouring Kakar Chiefs are most friendly. Kakar labourers are making the Suranari Kotal the only difficult pass between Quetta and Talchotiali fit for camels. Engineer Officers in charge are of opinion that with little labour and expense it could be made fit for carts.

Sup[illegible]s have been collected without difficulty at Khushdil for one month, sufficient for the entire force returning that way.

The nephew of the late Haji Khan Kakar with influential Kakar Maliks are reported to be en route to join Major Sandeman. The supply question is causing no anxiety. Kakars have taken service to carry the mails.

Mr. Fryer has marched from Barkhan for Parrand.

MONEY MARKET.

(*March* 15, 1879.)

GOVERNMENT LOANS.

4	Per Cent. Promissory Notes	Rs.	92	8	a	93 0
4½	Per Cent. of 1870 (1885)	,,	97	8	a	98 0
4½	Per Cent. of 1871 (1881)	,,	96	8	a	97 0
4½	Per Cent. (Trans.) of 1872 (1879) reduced to			4 p. ct.		
4½	Per Cent. of 1878 (1893)	,,	97	0	a	97 8
5½	Per Cent. of 1859-60 (1879)	,,	Nominal			

GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES OF 1867.

Per Cent. for 15 years (1882) ..... Rs. 101 8 a 102 0

CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.

6	Per Cent. of 1861 (1884) ...	Rs.	106	8	a	107 0
6	Per Cent. of 1865 (1885) ...	,,	107	0	a	108 0
6	Per Cent. of 1866 (1886) ...	,,	108	0	a	109 0
6	Per Cent. of 1867 (1887) ...	,,	110	0	a	111 0
6	Per Cent. of 1870 (1890) ...	,,	111	0	a	112 0
6	Per Cent. of 1872 (1892) ...	,,	112	0	a	113 0
5	Per Cent. of 1878 (1908) ...	,,	101	8	a	102 0

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS

	Rs.	As.	P.
Secretary Wardha. Library	10	0	0
District Engineer, Goalpara.....	1	12	0
Baboo Peary Mohan Mitra, Burranagore.....	5	0	0
,, Poorno Chunder Banerjee, Rutlam.....	13	4	0
,, Prankristo Roy, Hooghly	20	0	0
,, Nobokrishna Chatterjee, Oonao.....	6	10	0
,, Kedar Nath Ghose, Bantra.....	1	2	0
,, Atool Chunder Ghose, Nurrail.....	13	4	0
,, Kylash Chunder Mookerjee, Ampta.....	13	4	0
,, Gobinda Gopal Ghose, Kandi.....	13	4	0
,, Piary Mohan Banerjee, Sirsa	13	4	0
,, Satcory Chatterjee, Bhangore.....	10	0	0
,, Kissory Mohan Chatterjee, Saidpore....	10	0	0
,, Rashbehary Chatterjee, Jaltrapeor.....	10	0	0
,, Jogot Mohan Das, Dacca.....	13	4	0

ERRATUM

For Baboo Bany Madhob Banerjee, Punkabari Rs. 5 read..... 6 10 0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*March* 12, 1879.

General.—Mr. C. B. Garrett, C S., report his departure from India, on furlough, on the 11th ultimo.

Moulvi Muizuddin Ahmed, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakholly, is allowed leave for three months, under section 12—2, Supplement F to the Civil Leave Code.

Baboo Saroda Prosad Sarcar, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, incharge of the Fenny River division of the Noakholly district, is transferred temporarily to the Sudder Station of that district for employment on settlements work, *vice* Moulvi Muzuddin Ahmed.

Moulvi Zakir Hossein, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chittagong, is appointed to have charge of of the Feonn River division of the Noakholly district during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Saroda Prosad Sarcar, or until further orders.

Mr. D. Norton, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Buxar, Shahabad, is posted temporarily to the Sudder Station of that district.

Mr. W. Fiddian, Officiating Commissioner, Soonderbuns, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Noakholly during the absence, on leave, of Mr. A. Manson, or until further orders.

This cancels the orders of 20th ultimo, appointing Mr. J. C. Veasey to act as Magistrate and Collector of Noakholly.

Baboo Bunkim Chunder Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Hooghly, was on leave for 11 days, under Section 3, under Supplement F to the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 17th February last.

Mr. D. R. Lyall, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Dacca, is allowed furlough for seven months, under Section 12 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 29th proximo, together with subsidiary leave for fourteen days under Section 24(a) of the Code.

Mr. A. Baroosh, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jehanabad, Burdwan, having returned to duty on the 28th November last, the unexpired portion of the leave granted to him under orders of the 6th September 1878, is cancelled.

Baboo Bhoobun Mohun Soor, Cancoongoe of the First Grade, Hooghly, is appointed to act as a Sub-Deputy Collector at Jehanabad, in Burdwan, during the absence on leave of Baboo Jogendr nath Gupta, or until furthur orders.

Major L. Blathwayt, Assistant Commissioner, in charge of the Pachumba Division, Hazareebagh, is allowed subsidiary leave for three days, in extension of that granted to him under orders dated the 21st January 1879.

The services of Lieutenant G. F. Wilson, R.E., Aide-de-Camp on the Personal Staff of the Lieutenant-Governor, are replaced at the disposal of the Government of India, in the Military Department.

Lieutenant J. F. Rivett-Carnac, Officiating Assistant Commissioner, Doomka, Southal Pergunnahs, is posted to Jamtara.

Mr. H. F. J. T. Maguire, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Beerbhoom, is transferred to the Sudder Station of the Bhagulpore district.

Mr. E. A. Bradbury, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serampore, Hooghly, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Rajsahye during the absence, on leave, of Mr. W. H. D'Oyly or until further orders.

Mr. R. Carstairs, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Goalundo, Furreedpore, is transferred to Hooghly, and is appointed to have charge of the Serampore division of that district.

Mr. E. B. Harris, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Monghyr, is transferred to Furreedpore and is appointed to have charge of the Goalundo division of that district.

POLICE.—Mr R. F. Guise, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Darjeeling, is transferred to Jessore.

Mr. G. A. Patten, Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, Rungpore, is transferred to Darjeeling.

MEDICAL.—The services of Assistant Surgeon Manmatha Nath Dutta are placed at the disposal of the Governors of the Mayo Hospital.

Assistant Surgeon Tameez Khan, Khan Bahadoor, Teacher of Medicine, Campbell Medical School, Sealdah, is allowed leave for three months, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Assistant Surgeon Bollye Chunder Sen, Teacher of Medicine and Materia Medica, Temple Medical School, Patna is appointed to act as Teacher of Medicine Campbell Medical School, Sealdah, during the absence, on leave, of Assistant Surgeon Tameez Khan, Khan Bahadoor, or until further orders.

Advertisements.

NOTICE

"It is hereby advertized that some portions of the landed property of late Purno Chunder Rai of Bejnishur Pergunna Idilpur, Out-Post Burirhut, Subdivision Madaripur, zillah Farridpur, which is now under the management of the Farridpur Collector, would be sold to clear off the debts of the Estate at prices settled with the undersigned."

"Intending purchasers are reqnested to apply to the undersigned within a month from the date of this publication."

J. E. B. JEFFERY,
Offg. Collector,
Furreedpore.

WANTED

An experienced Draughtsman and Estimator who will also be required to do surveying and levelling occasionally. To commence with a salary of Rs. 30 per mensem.

Applications with testimonials to be forwarded to undersigned on or before 1st April 1879.

E. A. STONEY.
Burdwan. } *District Engineer.*
15*th*, *March* 1879. } *Burdwan.*

NOTICE.

Sealed Tenders are invited by the Surgeon Superintendent of the Presidency General Hospital for the supply of Provisions, wines, clothing and miscellaneous articles to that Institution from the 1st April 1879 to 31st March 1880.

All particulars with Blank Form of Tender can be obtained at the Hospital between the hours of 8 to 10 A. M.

Tenders are to be addressed to the Surgeon Superintendent, General Hospital. They will be received up to the 18th March 1879 and opened on the morning of the 19th instant.

J. Jones M.D. Surgeon Major,
Officiating Surgeon Superintendent.

NORTHERN BENGAL STATE RAIWAY
NOTICE.

Special reduced rate for tobacco.

On and from 15th March 1879, Tobacco in consignments of 200 maunds and upwards will be carried over the Northern Bengal State and Eastern Bengal Railways at ½ a pie per maund per mile, with the addition of one anna six pie per maund as Ferry charge.

By order
Traffic Superintendent's Office, } G. M. Drury,
Saidpur, 10*th March* 1879. } *Traffic Superintendent.*

Wanted a Record-Keeper for the Bogra Collectorate. Monthly salary Rs. 40 rising to 60. Applications on or before the 28th instant to be sent with copies of testimonials to the Collector of Bogra.

Bogra Collectorate. } F. Wyer,
The 12*th March* 1879. } *Collector.*

NOTICE.

Wanted an Overseer and Registrar of Carts and Carriages for the Beauliah Municipality on a salary of Rs. 100 per mensem. None need apply who has not passed the examination for the post of Overseer in the P. W. D. Applicants to send certificates of character and past services on or before the 30th instant, a security of Rs. 750 required.

Beauleah Municipal Office, } Mohendra Nath Bose,
March 10*th* 1879. } *Deputy Magistrate and Secretary.*

"Wanted a first class mathematical tutor, apply to Mr. Sidney Edwards, St. James's School, 84 Circular Road."

NORTHERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.
NOTICE

On and from 15th March 1879 an Up and Down Train will run on the Rungpore Branch in connection with Up Mixed Train as under.

UP TRAIN.

Parbatipur.....	Dep.	5-22 P. M.
Rungpur.....	Arr.	7-3 ,,

DOWN TRAIN.

Rungpur.....	Dep.	2-30 P. M.
Parbatipur	Arr.	4-11 ,,

By Order
G. M. DRURY,
Traffic Superintendent.

Traffic Supdt.'s Office: Saidpur, 7th March 1879.

NOTICE.

This day is published the CRIMINAL COURT COMPANION, a compendium of the Criminal Law of India with its practice and procedure. It contains a history of the Courts of Criminal Justice, an account of the Police Force and the Magistrate's Courts in Calcutta and the interior, as well as a description of the powers and duties of the Criminal Courts of the Presidency Towns and the districts and their constitution In an Appendix are given all the Acts comprising the Criminal law of the Empire. For convenience of reference a copious and comprehensive Index has been given. Price to subscriber Rs. 10, postage and packing annas 4. No orders without remittance accompanying the same will be attended to. Apply to—

Prankissen Ghose,
Colcutta Police Court.

IN THE COURT OF THE 2ND SUBORDINATE JUDGE, 24 PARGANAHS
EXECUTION CASE No. 4 OF 1879

Grish Chunder Bose, Minor, through his Guardian Gyan Chandra Bose, ...*Decreeholder.*

vrs.

Roy Bhupendra Nath Chowdry and others ...*Judgment debtors.*

The undermentioned properties of the Judgment debtors above named will be sold by Public Auction at 12 A. M. Monday the 7th April next, in the Court of the District Judge, 24 Parganahs.

Lot. No. 1. The two annas share of the debtors in Talook No. 654 of the 24 Parganahs Collectorate called Parganah Surparajpoor and others, Kismut Surparajpoor, Turuf Mouzah Tetoolia and others, and Turuf Mouzah Tarali and others. The Estate is recorded in the name of Kali Koomar Roy, at a Sudder Jumma of Rs. 607 Ans 6 Pies 7: and is situate within the Sub-Registration Districts of Kaligunge and Baduria, in the Moonsif's Chowkey of Satkira and Basirhat and the Registration District of Alipore. Value by estimation Rs. 500."

Lot. No. 2. The one anna share of the said Judgment debtors in Estate No. 979 of the 24 Parganahs Callectorate, called Perganah Myehatty, Kismit Myehatty and Mouzah Debhatta and others. The property is situate within the Sub-registration District and Police Station of Kaligunge. Moonsif's Chowkey Satkira and the Registration District of Alipore and is recorded in the name of Jogmoya Chowdrain and others at a Sudder Jamma of Rs. 1423 Ans 15 Pies 11 per annum. Value by estimation Rs. 800.

And also

In Execution case No. 3 of 1879, pending in the same Court and between the same parties, the following properties:—

Lot. 1. The Eight annas share of the said Judgment debtors in Talook No. 958, 24 Parganahs Collectorate, called Perganah Agarparah and others. Kismut Agarpara, Mouzah Takey and others. It is recorded in the name of Jogmoya Chowdrani and others at a Sudder Jumma of Rs. 193 Ans 6 Pies 11 per annum, and is situate within the Sub-Registration District and Moonsif's Chowkey of Basirhat and Police Station Hosseinabad, and the Registration District of Alipore. Value by estimation Rs. 2000.

Lot. No. 2. The one anna share of the said Judgment debtors in Estate No. 956, 24-Parganahs Collectorate called Perganah Agarparah, Mouzah Bodari and others recorded in the name of Rasu Nath Roy, at a "Sudder Jamma of Rs. 4498 Ans 4. It is situate within the Moonsif's Chowkey and Sub-Registration District of Basirhat, Police Station Hosseinabad and Registration District of Alipore. Value by Estimation Rs. 5000."

For further particulars apply at the office of the 2nd Sub-Judge, 24 Pergenahs, Alipore; or to the undersigned.

Bar Library, Alipore } JUGODISH CHUNDRA BOSE,
15*th*, *March* 1879. } *Vakeel for Decreeholder.*

Minute of the Proceeding of the Eighth Ordinary General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Bengal Iron Works Company Limited held at the Registered Office of the company No. 3, Fairlie Place Calcutta at noon on Tuesday,

11TH MARCH 1879.

Present.

J. F. Rutherford Esq. Chairman

M G. Stewart Esq.	A. R. McIntosh Esq.
J. L Ritchie Esq.	S. Cochrane Esq.
Wm. Duff Bruce Esq.	John Morrison Esq., by his Attorney.
Baboo Toolsy Das Seal,	
„ Poolin Chundra Roy,	William T. Ker Esq.
„ Toolsy Das Roy,	J. H. Lane Esq.
	Baboo Mohendra N. Roy

The notice calling the meeting having been read.

It was proposed by J. F. Rutherford Esq.

Seconded by Baboo Toolsy Das Seal, and carried unanimously

That the Directors' Reports and Accounts for the half year ending 31st December 1878, which have been printed and circulated among the shareholders be adopted and passed.

It was proposed by M. G. Stewart Esq.

Seconded by Baboo Toolsy Das Roy, and carried unanimously.

That Baboo Toolsy Das Seal be elected a Director of the Company.

It was proposed by S. Cochrane Esq.

Seconded by J. H. Lane Esq., and carried unanimously.

That the appointment of Mr. M. G. Stewart as Director of the Company be confirmed.

It was proposed by S. Cochrane Esq.

Seconded by Baboo Mohendra Nath Roy, and carried unanimously.

That Messrs. Marc Mengens and W. A. Browe be re-elected Auditors of the Company for the current year.

The Chairman informed the meeting that in consequence of the Company being unable to pay the Bills of the Bengal Coal Company for coke supplied, the Directors of that Company had sent notice that application should be made to the Court to wind up this Company. Several of the largest shareholders had been consulted, but as they declined to subscribe further capital either for the old Company or for a new Company to be formed out of the old Company the threatened action of the Bengal Coal Company can not be averted.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the meeting separated.

(Sd.) J. F. Rutherford,
Chairman.

THE MATERIA MEDICA OF THE HINDUS.

By Udoychand Dutt Civil Medical Officer, with a Glossary of Indian plants by George King Esq., M. B. F. L. S., Superintendent of the Royal Botanical Garden, and the author, P. P. 370, Price Rs. 6.

A work which should be in the hands of every European physician in India, and which from its intrinsic value should find a place in every medical and pharmaceutical Library.—*Pharmaceutical Journal and Transactions.*

The information conveyed is very interesting not only to those numerous members of our profession. who may be practising in India, but also to the cultivators of therapeutical knowledge throughout the world.—*Medical Times and Gazette.*

This is the most interesting work on the Materia Medica of India, as yet published in the English language, and will be welcomed by all students of the history of Medicine.—*Dr. Birdwood in the Academy.*

Fills up a gap in the English Medical Literature of India.—*Indian Medical Gazette.*

The combined work of Dr. Dutt and Dr. King has produced a most valuable contribution to the Botanical Science of the world.—*Calcutta Review.*

If Babu Udoychand Dutt is disappointed in the circulation of his work it will not be for want of a worthy design or of any of the qualities necessary to its successful accomplishment, but of a class of appreciative readers, sufficiently large to give his labours usefulness of the high order at which he aims.—*Englishman*

It is a very valuable work and I am delighted to see a Hindu scholar throwing so much light on a most important but little known branch of Sanskrit learning.—*Professor E. B. Cowell.*

Messrs. Thacker Spink & Co.,—Calcutta.

WANTED.

For the District of Mymensigh a district road Engineer to act for six months during the absence on sick leave of the substantive District Engineer. Candidates must send in their applications by 20th March at latest.

Mymensingh
Road Cess Office,
The 4th March, 1879.

Chairman,
Road Cess Committee.

NORTHERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

Notice.

On and from 1st April 1879 Refreshment Room at Jaipur Station will be closed on the Northern Bengal State Railway.

G. M. DRURY,
Traffic Superintendent.

Traffic Supdt.'s Office: Saidpur, 28th February 1879.

WONDERFUL REMEDY FOR PILES.

An excellent newly discovered Patent Medicine for Piles and for all sorts of complaints arising therefrom, sold in bottles @ Re. 1-8 exclusive of Postage. To be had at Messrs. R. Scott Thomson and Co.'s Dispensary, Messrs. Chuckerbutty Sons and Co., Imperial Druggist Hall and Doctor Baboo Opender Chunder Bose, Mirzapore, Machoobazar Street No. 86, and also at the premisses of Babu K. P. Chatterjea, No. 13, Jhamapooker Lane. K. P. C.

DISTRICT CHARITABLE SOCIETY.

The Residence of the Honorary Secretary to the above Society is at No. 18 Lall Bazar Street.

The Society is in urgnt need of funds and contributions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by

J. LAMBERT,
Honorary Secretary.

10*th January* 1879.

By appointment,
To HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH DHEERAJ OF BURDWAN.

C. K. SEN & CO.

KOBIRAJ DRUGGISTS AND CHEMISTS,

Calcutta,

AYUR VEDA MEDICAL HALL
No. 146, *Lower Chitpore Road.*

C. K. SEN & CO'S
Dantashodhana Churna or celebrated Dentifrice.

The regular use of this powder is sure to cure all diseases of the gums, cures ulceration, prevents bleeding, sweetens the breath, perfectly cleanses the teeth of tartar and all other noxious matters and renders them pearl white.

Price per Box 8 *Annas. Postage &c.*, 8 *Annas*

4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.

C. K. SEN. & Co.'s
CURE FOR HYDROCELE

If the disease be of one years standing, the use of one box only of this medicine is sure to cure. If it be of long standing, the regular use of the medicines for a longer period will cure 90 cases out of 100, and it is warranted to remove all complications such as fever, debility &c. however long they may have existed. It also restores the virile powers which have been lost on account of the malady.

Price per box Rs. 2, postage & 8 annas.

4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.

C. K. SEN. & CO.'S
Kuntalabrishya or World-famed Hair Restorer.

The regular use of this invaluable oil most certainly cures baldness and prevents the hair from falling off or turning prematurely grey. It cures diseases of the head and brain and strengthens weak and failing eyesight. It possesses a very sweet odour.

Price per Bottle Re. 1. *Postage &c.*, 10 *As.*

2 Bottles can be sent by the above postage.

C. K. SEN & CO. 'S
Superior & Genuine Makaradhwaja.

This is one of the most potent medicines of the Hindu Pharmacopœa, never fails to produce the most satisfactory results in cases of debility from whatever cause arising seminal, constitutional or otherwise. It acts like a charm in typhus or typhoid fevers, chronic diarrhœa, habitual, constipation, gleat, gonorrhœa, spermatorrhœa, female complaints after delivery, weakness of the brain from excessive mental labor, and in all complaints to which the persons of sedentary habits are especially subject.

Price 7 grains per Rupee or Rs. 24 per Tolah.
Postage 4 As.

All the above preparations are perfectly innocuous and may be taken by persons of all sexes and ages with perfect safety.

BINOD LAL SEN, KOBIRAJ,
Manager

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.

9, ESPLANADE ROW, CALCUTTA.

No. 219 Pump on Barrow, fitted with 25' 2" Section and 30' 1½" Delivery Hose Rs. 260.

Provincial Fire Engine No. 200 with double 5 Barrels, 25 feet 2½ inch I. R.

Suction and 50 feet 2½ inch I. R. Delivery Hose ... ... „ 660

This is an admirable Fire Engine for small villages or factories; it is quite portable, and can be easily placed on a light cart, and run off to wherever required.

The approximate quantity of water delivered 100 feet high, is 70 gals, per minute.

Brooke's Fire Engine in Tank, with 25 feet Suction and 50 feet Delivery Hose, &c. Rs. 575.

Fire Engine No. 217, complete with 25 feet 1 ¾ inch Suction and 50 feet Delivery Hose, &c. ... „ 800

Factory Fire Engine No. 540, with 25 feet 2½ inch Leather Suction and 50 feet 2 inch Leather Delivery Hose, complete ... ... „ 1,750

T. E. THOMSON & Co. have also in stock Garden Engines Syringes, Aquajects in Pail Improved Water Barrows, Fountain Jets, and all kinds of Garden Implements and Tools.

Manufacturers of and Agents for Jeben's Patent Transplanting Tools.

10 per cent Discount off the above prices for Cash

FEVER MIXTURE.

Cures the worst forms of

MALARIOUS FEVER.
REMITTENT FEVER.
INTERMITTENT FEVER.

Ague.

This mixture is largely used in Calcutta and the surrounding districts and never fails to effect a radical cure of any of the above Fevers, even in the worst cases, if proper attention be paid to the instructions accompanying each bottle.

Price per bottle, Re. 1-2 @ 1-8.

For convenience of transit by post, this mixture is made in a *concentrated* form with clear instructions for diluting. It is particularly recommended to tea planters, missionaries, and others residing in the interior, both on account of its admirableproperties, as a curative and preventative Agent and of its extreme cheapness. A large sized bottle of concentrated mixture will make *one quart* of Fever Mixture.

Per bottle, Re. 1-0 @ 1-8.

Sold only by J. CORFIELD & Co.

SPLEEN MIXTURE.

Corfield's Spleen Mixture has a very large sale in lower Bengal, and is approved by numerous Medical men who are constantly prescribing it.

A few doses are sufficient to reduce an enlargement, and if the mixture be persevered in for a short time, it will effect a permanent cure.

Per bottle Re. 1-0 @ 1-8.

This mixture is also made in a concentrated form for convenience of transit by post.

Full directions in English and Bengali accompany each bottle.

Extract of Bael for Dysentery, Diarhœa, &c.
Per bottle, Re. 1-8 @ 2-8.

AMMONIATED SOLUTION OF QUININE.
An absolute specific for Influenza or cold in the head,
Per bottle, Rs. 1-8 @ 2-8.

Quinine & Iron Tonic.

The best medicine to take after fever or any other debilitating disease. It excites the appetite and puts the patient in strength in an incredibly short space of time

per bottle Rs. 2.

J. CORFIELD & Co.
CHEMISTS, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.
11, Old Court House Street, Calcutta.

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BY APPOINTMENT

To His Excellency the Right Hon'ble

LORD LYTTON, G.M.S.I.

VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA,

&c., &c., &c.,

BATHGATE & CO.,

CALCUTTA.

PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS.

B & Co's CHEMICAL FOOD;

OR

COMPOUND SYRUP OF THE PHOSPHATE OF IRON.

A useful and elegant Tonic, easily assimilated, and an admirable remedy in all cases of vital depression, Rickets, Scrofula, and similar diseases depending, on impoverished blood.

In bottles, at Rs. 2, 4, and 7 each.

Syrup of the Phosphate of Iron, Quinine, and Strychnine.

(AITKEN'S FORMULA.)

An effectual remedy in all cases of General Debility, Indigestion, Prostration, and Emaciation. The natural appetite is restored and digestion improved, whilst its peculiar tonic and bracing properties impart strength to the most feeble constitution. A tea spoonful in a wine-glassful of Sherry, half an hour before meals, will be found a most pleasant and appetizing draught.

PRICE PER BOTTLE 2-8 AND 5 Rs.

B. & Co's Phosphorised Cod Liver Oil,

(Contains 1-32nd of a grain in each half ounce.)

Has very little smell, and is nearly tasteless.

This elegant preparation during the last two years has been very extensively employed in the London Hospitals and by the first Physicians with the most marvellous effects in the treatment of consumption and wasting Diseases of description; it has also been of great service in Chronic Skin Diseases and Rheumatism. Weak and Shattered Constitutions, have much benefited by its use. In *all* cases in which Cod Liver Oil is known to be of value, this Phosphorised Preparation may be taken *with much increased benefit.*

Sold in ½ pt. bottles at Rs. 3 each.

A discount of 20 per cent. is allowed on all orders for 1 dozen and upwards, accompanied by cash.

BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT, 51, PARK STREET.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1809.

President.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE, K.T.

Vice-Presidents.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, K.G.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G.

General Court of Directors.

Right Hon'ble Lord Lawrence, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., & P.C., Chairman.

Report by the Directors

PRESENTED TO THE

Sixty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Company,

Held at Edinburgh on Friday, 5th April 1878.

The Directors submit the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December last:—

Life Business.

During the year 1877 there have been issued 1926 Policies, assuring £1,003.580, the new Premiums on which amount to £32,049: 10: 5.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 10 Endowments, were 280 in number, arising under 341 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amount with Bonus additions, to the sum of £299,863: 10: 6.

As will be seen from the State of Affairs annexed, the Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,711,876:11:7, being £105,446: 17: 10 above what it was on 31st December 1876. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

After paying the Dividend, the Reserve Fund will amount to £794,576: 19: 11, and the Premium Reserve to £302,671, 8s. 5d., together amounting to £1,017,248: 8: 4. At 31st December 1876 these Funds amounted to £1,082,768: 11: 10, showing an increase this year of £14,479: 16: 6.

INDIAN BRANCH.

CHIEF OFFICE FOR INDIA.

1, HASTING STREET, CALCUTTA.

General Agents: ROBERTS, MORGAN & CO.,

No. 1, Hastings Street, Calcutta.

Notice.

AFGHAN EXPEDITION.

An extra rate of 3 guineas will be charged to Officers proceeding on active service into Afghanisthan.

No More Pains!!!

DARLINGTON'S

INFALLIBLE PAIN-CURER.

Warranted to cure pains of every description arising from whatever cause, on any part of the human frame. A certain cure for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Headache, Neuralgia, Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Swellings, Old Sores, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, or spots on the face, and Eruptions on the Skin.

Pains of every description have been cured by the outward application only of this medicine, when all the skill of the medical art has been tried without effect.

Per bottle Re. 1; Large size Rs. 2, packing & postage As. 8,

DARLINGTON & CO.

49, Dhurrumtollah-Street, Calcutta.

☞ Call for DARLINGTON'S PAIN-CURER. Thousands of Testimonials of the marvellous cures by this remedy.

The following is from an influential zemindar, the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality of Burisaul, and one who writes after taking from us 9 bottles of the Infallible Pain-Curer.

MESSRS. DARLINGTON & Co., 49 Dhurrumtollah St. Calcutta.

Dear Sirs,—Please send me two bottles more (large size) of your Infallible Pain-Curer. I am happy to observe that I have witnessed beneficial results from its application. Some of my friends used it, and I also gave to some of my servants, I was pleasingly surprised to see that in every instance it kept true to its name. Yours faithfully.—EDWARD BROWN.

GENTLEMEN,—I enclose two currency notes of ten rupees each and beg you will kindly send me eight bottles more (large size) of your famous "Infallible Pain-Curer" which is undoubtedly worthy of its name. Yours most obediently, Digamber Pershad, English teacher to Baboo Sreedhur Sahi, Zemindar of Manjha, camp Ajodhya in Fyzabad.

Rev. Mother of St. Joseph's Convent, Bandora, Bombay Presy, writes:

Dear Sirs,—We find the Infallible Pain-Curer efficacious, and are glad to know of it as being a useful medicine.

I remain, Yours truly, SISTER THEODORINE.

Superioress Felix de la Croix.

Gentlemen,—I herewith send you the value and shall feel obliged by your sending me by post another bottle (large size) of the Infallible Pain Curer. I find that the medicine is doing me great deal of good.

CHINTAMAN SAKHARAM CHITIUS. Subordinate Judge.

Kaira. Guzrath, Bombay Presidency.

Dear Sirs.—Your Infallible Pain-Curer, which was sent to Baboo Rajkisore Chatterjee Toondla has done him good and he writes me to send him another bottle as early as possible. Will you have the goodness to send up without delay another bottle (large size) of the same sort you forwarded last time to him. Yours faithfully,

KISORY MOHUN CHATTERJEE, 4 Fairlie Place, Calcutta.

Gentlemen,—Lately I had taken from you a bottle of your famous "No More Pains" which has almost relieved me of all my pains. I beg to enclose a remittance in postage stamps, and hope you will be pleased to send me another bottle of the same medicine.

Yours faithfully, RAJENDRA NATH CHATTERJEE, Hallisahur Khasbatty, *via* Kanchraparah, Camp Rungown.

Gentlemen,—I enclose Telegraph Stamps, and beg you will kindly send me another bottle of your "Infallible Pain-Curer," which is undoubtedly worthy of its name.

Yours faithfully,

P. THORPE, No. 39 Anderson Street, Black Town, Madras.

COST PRICE.

Very Very Superior Coke.

SPECIAL SELECT QUALITY.

Two maunds of this are equal to three maunds of that ordinarily sold. It is perfectly dry and pure, not being mixed with burnt coal or other inferior stuffs. Per maund 9 annas, 6 pie, cart and cooly paid by us and delivered at purchasers' houses.

W. L. ATKINSON & CO.,

5, Old Court House Street.

NOTICE.

Baboo Khetter Nauth Bhattacharjee (late of the Public Works and Road Cess Department) will undertake to design and superintend the construction of Buildings and to act as an Engineer and Surveyor in the partition of House and landed properties. Communications to be addressed to him at 70/1 Sookea's Street, Calcutta.

BOSE PRESS,

No. 309, Bowbazar Street, Calcutta,

Undertakes to execute printing works in English, Bengali and Nagri on very moderate charges.

G. C. BOSE & Co.,—*Managing Proprietors.*

ROAD CESS WORKS.

RUNGPORE.

Required for the office of the District Engineer, Rungpore, a Head clerk on a salary of Rs. 30 per mensem. Candidates to forward copies of their testimonials to the undersigned.

C. H. RINGWOOD C. E.

District Executive Engineer,

Rungpore.

TIMEPIECES.

22 inches Rs. 58. Rs. 175, in morocco case. 22 inches Rs. 58.

Packing for each Rs. 2 extra.

Prices less 10 per cent., discount for cash with order.

The Globe Timepiece.

The latest Novelty in Horological Machines.

This interesting and useful Timepiece will well repay inspection. In appearance it is a small Globe, richly mounted in Gilt Ormolu. The highly finished Lever works are concealed in the Globe, which revolves diurnally, as the Earth does on its axis. In addition to local time, the Clock will show the time at any given place on the Earth's surface, and also those portions of the Earth which are in the night, and those in the day.

The Patent Illuminated Lamp Timepiece.

Which shows the Time at Night as well as by Day.

This elegant novelty, which we have just introduced largely into our extensive stock, offers the following advantages:—

The Time can be as distinctly seen by night as by day, and the value of the oil consumed if kept burning all night is less than four annas per week.

The movement is of the best kind, known under the name of horizontal movement, works on four jewels, and is carefully and well finished.

The Clock may be placed or carried in any position without disarranging or stopping the movement. The Hand or Indicator is stationary; the Platform on which the Globe rests revolves by means of a rod, which passes through the Tube held by the Figure, and in Column through the centre, and is turned by the ment at the base of the Figure or Column need only be wound up once a week.

Illustrated Catalogues post free.

HAMILTON & Co.

JEWELLERS AND WATCH MAKERS,

8, *Old Court House Street, Calcutta*

SPECIFIC FOR DYSMENORRHŒA.

OR

PAINFUL MENSTRUATION (বাধক বেদন

A single administration during menses generally cures the disease and brings on conception."

For particulars apply to Dr. Bhoobun Mohun Sircar, No. 77, Mooktaram Baboo's Street, Chore Bagan, Calcutta.—**Price Rs. 3-8,**

Sole Agents. B. M. SIRCAR. & Co.

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